

abuses and to introduce healthy and desirable reforms. Under these circumstances, I am tempted to ask whether a highly paid officer like our Muzrai Superintendent is necessary to do office work, and whether this branch of the work cannot with advantage be tacked on to one of the Assistant Secretaries. If the Superintendent of Muzrai department is to be of any real use to the public, as he ought to be, he should be made to tour during the greater part of the year for the purpose of inspecting the institutions and correcting abuses then and there.

Excise.

This department has been showing an increase in revenue by leaps and is bounds. As I anticipated last year, the income has risen by 5 lakhs over the budgetted amount. The learned Financial Secretary is again up with his comforting suggestion that the increase is mainly due to the keen competition among contractors. Is it possible that the contractors bid every year in an extravagant manner, if they had really been sustaining a loss in their venture? The Excise Commissioner in his Administration Report for 1914-15, has been pleased to say that the shops were being gradually reduced, but my own impression is that he may have reduced a shop here and a shop there which were not attracting the people and the contractors. With regard to the reduction of the number of shops, more depends upon the sites of these shops than upon their number. The important and extensive District of Mysore does not seem to have had any appreciable reduction. The Excise Commissioner mentions in his report that there was one toddy shop for every 9.3 square miles on an average. These averages which are given on the whole area of the State are misleading and cannot be taken as a sure guide to see whether the shops are located at long distances. So far as my experience goes within a distance of 4 miles on the Mysore-Bangalore High Road from Bommoor to Darasaguppe, there are 6 toddy shops, all on the road side.

Regarding arrack, according to the Excise Commissioner himself, in 1914-15, the contractors have been supplied with 3,77,163 gallons and 53½ drams of arrack. At the rate fixed by Government they make a profit of Rs. 1-5-10 per gallon, which works out a total gain of Rs. 5,14,671 while they have paid Rs. 5,49,220 as shop rent. By deducting the gain from the shop rent, contractors have sustained a loss of Rs. 34,500 besides their house rent and establishment cost which may roughly be put down at Rs. 5,500, thus making a total loss of Rs. 40,000 in one year. On a reference to the statement furnished to me in this Council with reference to arrack shops in the Cities of Mysore and Bangalore and C. R. Works, I found that the contractors sustained a loss of over Rs. 9,000. When I interpellated the Government on this subject on 28th June 1916, the First Member of Council was pleased to state on behalf of the Government that the information before Government justified the presumption that the contractors did not work at a loss. It passes one's comprehension to see, with the figures staring before us, how the Government presumed that the contractors did not sustain any loss. I may be pardoned, if I say that the so-called presumption is against mathematical accuracy which admits of no other presumption than what can be supported by figures. If the contractors did not sustain any loss as opined by the Government, we have to presume that the contractors should have recourse to questionable means such as dilution, using short measures and selling at a far higher rate than that fixed by the Government and thus made up their losses. As a result the drinking population, most of whom are steeped in poverty, will have lost much of their earnings which should have gone to feed many hungry mouths at home. This is a serious situation from an economic point of view also. It therefore behoves the authorities to investigate the question thoroughly and devise suitable measures to check the consumption as far as possible. I must again here repeat what I said last year, the regularization of traffic, location of shops in large and populous villages and on the road side, facilities created for the people to buy this intoxicating commodity regularly and easily are mainly responsible to the curse of drink being on the increase. Therefore, my humble suggestion is that the Government be pleased to locate shops at long and inconvenient distances, far away from the road side, to restrict the hours of sale and give the local option to a very great extent. This, and this alone, can save the drinking population from the verge of starvation and the consequent temptation to commit theft and other kindred offences. The establishment of the depart-

ment must be made to interest themselves more in putting down illicit tapping and distillation than in trying to increase the revenue and earn the reputation of a successful administration from departmental point of view.

Public Improvement and Development.

The public are thankful to the Government for having allotted a sum of Rs. 9,75,000 under the head Public Improvement and Development. Out of the sum allotted, 4½ lakhs of rupees are set apart for the Mysore and Bangalore Cities. Rupees 75,000 is provided for the improvement of water-supply in towns which sum is barely sufficient even for a single town. No sums have been provided for improving the drainage of those tolerably large towns which are badly in need of such a scheme. I learn that the Government have been pleased to make a grant from the revenues of the State till now to the extent of 84½ lakhs of rupees to the Mysore City Improvement Trust Board and 32 lakhs of rupees for the improvement of Bangalore City and extensions. These cities, one being the capital of the State and the other the seat of Government and of commercial activity, eminently deserve every consideration at the hands of Government. What I contend for is that less fortunate towns miserably circumstanced may also receive a generous consideration at the hands of Government. To quote an instance in point, I may be permitted to mention Seringapatam, the ancient and historic capital of the State, with a glorious past, still retaining its prestige as a place of historic importance and religious sanctity. It is a place deserving immediate attention of Government for introducing various improvements such as water-supply, drainage scheme, etc. This question is being urged off and on, on every conceivable occasion and the people of the town feel disappointed that no specific provision has been made for the improvement of Seringapatam. I therefore request that the Government will be pleased to set apart a decent sum specifically for the water-supply and other improvements of Seringapatam.

Education.

I once more convey the heartfelt gratitude of the public to the Government of His Highness the Maharaja for having established a local University. To make this infant University a thorough success, it is absolutely necessary that the preparatory schools should be well manned and brought under efficient management. It is in these institutions, that students, who are to enter on their University course, should receive good grounding. I respectfully suggest that no efforts should be spared and no amount of expenditure should be grudged to bring these institutions to a high level of efficiency.

I learn that students of High School classes who were boarders in the Mysore Hostel have been asked to vacate the Hostel to accommodate the College students. The building which is now said to have been engaged for High School students for lodging is considered to be a small one and can hardly admit of more than twenty students. Moreover, those High School students are to come to the College Hostel for bathing and for their meals and then go back to their lodgings which is far away from the College Hostel. The students of High School classes are young and most of them have come from far away places leaving their parents and guardians, and it is of the utmost importance for the Government to bestow on them parental care. Till a separate Hostel is constructed for the High School students, the Government may be pleased to allow the High School students to remain in the Hostel. If the present Hostel building does not afford sufficient accommodation, buildings in the neighbourhood may be rented, and such buildings are available.

Mr. M. Chengiah Chetty.—SIR,—I am only making a few observations on the budget. It is very gratifying to note that the Cauvery Reservoir works are progressing satisfactorily. The amount spent as per budget figure was a little over a crore of rupees; and the Government is thus able to supply extra power to the Kolar Gold Fields which will pay about 6 per cent on the capital expenditure. That is a very gratifying result.

In my opinion the Amildars are overworked for the past five years on account of the recent economic activities in the country and it is necessary that their hands

should be strengthened by the appointment of Peishkars on the same pay as that of a Taluk Sheristadar to help them in their executive work. The Peishkar or Deputy Amildar, however he is termed, must have a knowledge of machinery so that he might be helpful to the raiyats in the use of machinery by them.

Another point on which I should like to say a few words is the low pay that is prescribed to medical graduates. Medical graduates are started as Sub-Assistant Surgeons on Rs. 60 per mensem. They have to remain in this grade for nearly five years till vacancies in the Assistant Surgeons occur on a pay of Rs. 80 per mensem. It takes them nearly twenty years before they can expect to get Rs. 300. The scale of the graduated pay of these men is much lower than in any other department. For instance the Government have recently sanctioned the time scale in the Engineering department. A Sub-Assistant Engineer gets Rs. 100 to start with; and with an annual increment of Rs. 20 he gets Rs. 200. He is then promoted to Assistant Engineer's grade on Rs. 250 rising by annual increments of Rs. 25 to Rs. 400. This salary is reached in about twelve years. You will thus see how unfavourably the Medical department compares with the Engineering department. So far as the training is concerned, the medical course takes five years, while the Engineering only three years. Somewhere I saw a remark that Engineer establishments are paid higher because they are to lead a life of exposure and that their services are required at every hour of the day. If so, is it not more true that the services of medical men are also required not only at every hour of the day but also of the night? If it is to be believed that the scale of medical men is purposely kept low because they are allowed the benefit of private practice, by which they can get a higher income, it is to be noted that private practice affects them very little in the State. In the Madras Presidency, the officials of the same grade are started on Rs. 100 as probationers and are given Rs. 150 on confirmation. The other day I read in the papers that the Government is of opinion that an agreement should be taken from them when they enter the medical service that they would stick on for three or four years. The question arises in this way. When these men enter the service, they take the earliest opportunity of getting out of it for the simple reason that their emoluments are so small. I am therefore of opinion that the Medical department should be strengthened by increasing the pay of the medical subordinates and making it commensurate with their duties and responsibilities, so as to compare favourably with that of Sub-Assistant Engineers.

Mr. C. Narasimhaiya.—SIR,—The Financial Secretary in his speech has said that the obligatory recurring expenditure in connection with the ordinary administration of the State will be met during the year to the extent of Rs. 240,42,000 from the permanent revenues of the State and of Rs. 7,42,000 from the mining and power revenues. It is thus seen that the ordinary administration charges have far outrun the permanent revenue of the State. This shows that there is greater need for economy in the expenditure on ordinary administration. Our expenditure on the Secretariats, the Financial and Account departments, the Railway department and to a certain extent the Public Works department has during the last three or four years increased considerably and I am afraid that we cannot conscientiously say that there has been such an improvement either in the quality or the quantity of work as to justify this large amount of extra expenditure. At the same time there is a strong feeling that the much needed improvement of the district and taluk administrations is not receiving as much attention as it deserves; for, after all, on the integrity and efficiency of the district and taluk administration depends to a very large extent the peace and happiness of the ordinary raiyats. I may go one step further and say that the improvement of the economic condition of the ordinary people and raising of their standard of living also depend to a considerable extent on the interest, sympathy and enthusiasm of the local officers. I am not unaware of the vast improvements that have been effected as a result of the enthusiastic work of you, Sir, and the other officers at the centre of the Administration. But I may venture to affirm that the results would have been far greater if the enthusiastic interest of the local officers especially the Amildars had been fully secured. It is a well known fact that there is a good deal of discontent in this class of officers whose power and influence, either for good or for bad, cannot be overestimated. I really believe that the question of the improvement of their prospects

can no longer be shelved without serious detriment to the general well-being of the State and I hope this will seriously engage the immediate and sympathetic attention of the Government and a time-scale rising up to say 300 as in the case of Assistant Commissioners and Munsiffs sanctioned.

This question of the increase of ordinary expenditure over ordinary revenue leads me to another important subject. For some time the question of devising other methods of taxation is in the air; and some have gone to the length of suggesting a levy of income tax and some the levy of an education cess. I have also a fear that our worthy Financial Secretary, deprived of his duties as Comptroller, is devoting all his energy towards finding out other sources of income which in the end comes to new taxation.

Turning now to our budget the permanent revenues of the State are estimated at 240,42,000. This divided among the 5,705,000 subjects of the State gives the incidence of taxation per head. This will work out to Rs. 4-3-5 per head and the average income per head cannot exceed Rs. 32, the estimate of Lord Curzon. But this is not all; I have not taken into account; the amount that we are contributing towards the Imperial Indian Revenue in the shape of tax on salt that we consume, customs duties on the various articles we import, the countervailing excise duties and the cotton, tobacco, etc., that we import and our contribution towards postal and mint and net receipts of the India Government. We have to take note of all this in calculating the true incidence of taxation. Considered in this light everybody must admit that we are not at all lightly taxed and that any extra taxation will prove a great hardship and would retard the healthy and normal development of the people. I would however suggest that the question of incidence should be studied in detail with reference to each particular tax and the burden on the different classes of people and re-adjustments effected, if necessary, so as to equalise the burden on all and remove undue hardship in particular cases such as the assessed taxes but so as not to exceed the present rate. I now proceed to offer some remarks on different departments but in so doing confine myself to a few departments.

Police.

In the report on the administration of the Police during the year 1914-15 on page 15, para 30, an observation is made about the Amildars as follows:—"Being Heads of Taluk Police and with such ample opportunities to know the details of the taluks; these officers are expected to evince more interest in police work and take more active part in the investigation of serious crimes which unfortunately has been perceptibly on the wane during recent years." I am led to think that the Police Inspectors are to a greater extent responsible for this. Of late there does not seem to be a healthy relationship between the Police and the Revenue officers. The Inspectors think that the Amildar is only a nominal head of Police and does nothing. The Inspector does not care to see the Amildar even in important cases, in which co-operation is needed. Whenever an Inspector is in the good books of the Superintendent he does not care for the Amildar. The authorities concerned will have to pay particular attention in this direction and see that there is harmony between the Police Inspectors and the Amildars.

Forest.

The estimate under Forest for 1916-17 exceeds the budget estimate of 1915-16 by Rs. 56,000. This seems to me to be an unnecessary item and savings may be effected in this direction as I shall point out later on.

There was no necessity for additional establishment in the Mysore and Shimoga Districts. Instead of dividing Mysore and Shimoga into two divisions each, the original sub-division could have been maintained to the greater benefit of the department if only the powers of the Sub-Division Officer had been enhanced by giving him more of the powers of a D. F. O. as is done in Revenue Sub-Division. In that case the unity of the department and the administration could have been maintained, extra establishment, time and labour could have been saved and effective supervision could have ensured greater benefit to the department.

In maidan parts, especially Tumkur and Kolar, the department is working at a loss. There seems to be no necessity for maintaining such a large establishment. If we deduct the income of minor produce especially tangadi revenue which requires no special supervision, we will see whether the yield under other heads is commensurate with the expenditure in these districts.

In my humble opinion there is no need for a separate D. F. O. in the maidan districts. The D. F. O. may be made the Excise Assistant and the conservation of date trees which are abundant in those parts may be entrusted to him.

Turning now to irrigation, I see that the establishment charges are increased about 50,000 whereas the cost of works proposed to be undertaken is only Rs. 16,000 more than that of last year. So also under irrigation minor the establishment charges are increased by Rs. 11,600 whereas the proposed works cost only Rs. 6,000 more than last year.

In reply to one of my interpellations on the slow progress of the minor tank restoration scheme, Government were pleased to state that one of the causes for this slow progress was the delay in the payment of contributions by the raiyats. I find that in many cases this is due to the fact that the raiyats are too poor to pay their quota long before they reap the benefits of improved irrigational facilities and would suggest that in such cases the contribution be recovered only after the raiyat has availed himself of the improved facility and raised a crop. I believe with suitable rules framed for the purpose this would ensure better progress.

In the D. P. W., the establishment charges are not detailed as in the case of other departments. It is not clear whether the allotment of 4,97,000 for establishment includes temporary establishment and the establishments charged to works.

The most important subject that has been engaging the attention of the public and of Government alike is education. During the last three or four years we have made rapid progress in all directions. Elementary schools have increased in number. Elementary education has been made compulsory in select areas. Technical and industrial schools are established all over the State. The Grant-in-aid Rules have been revised, the inspectorate has been enlarged, a revised scale of pay has been sanctioned and lastly, a University has been established and liberal provision has been made in the budget this year. For all these benefits conferred, the people of Mysore owe a deep debt of gratitude to His Highness the Maharaja and to His Highness' Government.

In spite of the various efforts of Government in the direction of improvements, complaints, sometimes bitter complaints, are not unheard of. To give only a few of these I may mention here that though a larger number of village elementary schools are sanctioned every year, we hear of schools without masters, masters without pay, grants not sanctioned in time and sanctioned grants not paid promptly.

Coming now to High Schools we hear complaints of the inadequacy of the staff, too many transfers and the consequent dislocation of work, the discontent of teachers with their poor prospects and a general fall in the standard of teaching. This is borne out by the poor results in most of the High Schools. Turning to Colleges we see that many of our students had to go elsewhere for want of seats. I am afraid that many of these are due to over centralisation which is at the same time responsible for the inability of the department to satisfactorily work out the sanctioned grant.

As at present the Inspector-General of Education has to concern himself with routine matters, such as the signature of a Grant-in-Aid bill, I am afraid he has little time for the preparation of important schemes and the solution of many vital problems connected with education, such as suitable text-books, schemes of study, separate courses for rural and urban elementary schools, assignment of control over these to the district boards, recruitment of intelligent men into the department, adapting of our secondary education to the new University standards, the question of religious and moral education and the improvement of technical education. These and many other problems are awaiting solution and till these are solved our system of education will not be complete and satisfactory.

If these problems are to be tackled only by the department I am afraid that it will take a very long time and the interest of many of the present day students will be sacrificed. I would therefore respectfully urge on the Government the appointment of an Education Commission composed of a few eminent educationists and some non-officials who should sit continuously for three or four months and suggest a solution for these problems and chalk out the lines on which development has to be effected in future.

In conclusion I must thank the Government for the various useful schemes that they have taken on hand for the amelioration of the people and also for the various useful experiments for the industrial development of the country. The Government have also to a certain extent taken advantage of the war conditions now existing and established the Sandalwood Oil Factory which is sure to prove a lasting benefit to the State. I hope that during your administration, Sir, many more such useful industries will come into existence.

Before resuming my seat I feel I must thank the Government for giving us an opportunity to informally discuss a few points of the budget yesterday and for the sympathy and confidence extended towards the non-official members of this Council by you, Sir, and the other official members of this body.

Mr. M. Karnick Krishnamurthi Rao.—Sir,—I beg leave to convey the most humble and respectful congratulations of my constituents and myself to His Highness the Maharaja and His Highness' Government for the successful termination of the Cauvery Arbitration which have not only confirmed our ancient rights, but also safeguarded the means of our future agricultural developments. The Kannambadi Reservoir will surely be a monument to the skill of the Mysore engineers, of whom I need hardly say you stand foremost.

Two of the most important achievements of your regime, during the past year are undoubtedly the Mysore University and the Kannambadi Reservoir and the future historian of Mysore will surely allow a large space to speak in praise of these good praiseworthy achievements for which the people of Mysore will ever be grateful to you.

Coming to the budget figures, education naturally looms large and we are deeply grateful to His Highness for the liberal grant he has commanded you to allot. We are only anxious that all the grants should be well utilised and no lapses should be allowed to occur.

A lapse of Rs. 1,71,000 has however been permitted. The Inspector-General of Education has a number of Assistants. When there is no necessity felt for the post of Deputy Inspector-General for the last two or three years I do not understand why provisions should continue to be made under this head in the budget. This seems to imply a want of continuity of policy in administration. Appointments are created for persons and not persons for appointments. While no other Head of Department has got more than two Assistants, the Inspector-General of Education has four, including compulsory education officer. The Head of the Revenue department, whose operations extend over every village, nay almost every inch of land, has only two Assistants. I fail to understand why the Head of the Educational Department who has dealings only with about one-third of the number of villages and towns which have schools, should have four Assistants besides a large body of inspecting officers and besides the help given by the Revenue and Economic departments. It is surprising to see such heavy lapses every year in spite of all this assistance.

The direction alone costs nearly half a lakh and the Inspectorate costs Rs. 1,62,500. The lapses are regrettable. The teachers in mofussil complain of non-receipt of pay for months together and building grants are unnecessarily delayed. There is much discontent in the ranks of teachers as budget grants are not utilised and their promotions are allowed to linger on. There are other reasons also for discontent. But I shall not refer to more just now.

The Educational department has a Central Book Depot attached to it for which, a sum of Rs. 62,306 is shown. The Curator and his office alone cost Rs. 9,456. There is scope for defalcation in the office which is far away from the office of the Inspector-General of Education. The curator is a lord of what he

surveys in his office. The Depot may be abolished and private firms be encouraged to sell all the Government publications on commission.

A grant of half a lakh is allowed to the Indian Institute of Science from the State revenues. May I know what adequate return the State has been getting.

Under grant-in-aid it is pointed out that industrial schools costs Rs. 16,412. Experimental schools Rs. 2,00,000 and adult schools Rs. 31,200. Are these amounts properly utilised? The industrial school at district headquarters are nothing more than a carpenter's pattadi and parents are already beginning to feel disappointed with this kind of training as all the young men so trained cannot eke out their livelihood either as carpenters or smiths. There is no demand for so large a number of young men of this kind. The grant for the industrial school should be better spent and really useful industrial schools should be encouraged. All the grants may be withdrawn and spent in awarding scholarships only to students who have aptitude for such training.

The experimental schools absorb two lakhs. I am not an educational expert to advise Government on matters of this kind, but from what I hear, see and learn some of the experimental schools which have been started so hastily are not worth the name. The adult schools cost Rs. 31,200 and their utility has yet to be watched.

For promotions to teachers a sum of Rs. 48,636 is provided this year and this sum at least I beg leave to repeat, should not be allowed to lapse, and the teacher's profession should not be allowed to grow in discontent and disappointment.

Among scholarships, I find Rs. 720 for scholarships in Mysore Tannery. It does not seem to have been provided for in previous years. I think it is a welcome departure and I trust students will really learn the trade and needful facilities will be given them by the Tannery authorities.

We are glad that the Agricultural Department has a major head this year and the raised dignity given to the department is well merited. It is hoped that agricultural farms in malnad parts will soon be opened, the one at Sagar not being enough.

Now that Mr. Chatterton, C.I.E., is given a seat on the Industries Commission he may shortly leave us. The Government should consider seriously the advisability of continuing the post. Here and there a few machines may have been successfully installed and that alone does not constitute justification for having a costly Directorate. We all admit that Mr. Chatterton is a very capable expert and there is nothing in the mechanical world which he is not aware of. But he is going away. Last year his budget figure was Rs. 99,500 and this year it has risen to Rs. 1,09,500 and that merely for direction.

Sir, I beg to submit that this is bordering on extravagance. The word extravagance may be considered too strong, but when I see that there is no adequate return for the amount spent I think I have not erred. The weaving factory costs Rs. 18,800. Is it economically worked? Its output must be increased to justify so much expenditure. The Industrial Depot takes away Rs. 2,400 without any return. The Industrial Depot can be conveniently given over to the Museum if its maintenance is considered necessary and I cannot easily forget the short but significant part the Industrial School at Channapatna has played and the loss it has entailed on Government.

The controlling officer of the Muzrai department is only a superintendent and carries no better status. He does not seem to exercise sufficient control over the doings of Deputy Commissioners in the Muzrai department. Several religious endowments are alienated and there is not sufficient check or safeguard over them. The Muzrai Superintendent is the only unfortunate officer who is not given the status of the Secretary.

Ayurvedic College.

If the College cannot be made attractive enough it may be abolished once for all. A fair trial ought to be given. The sum allotted is only Rs. 4,300. The pay of the Principal is the insignificant sum of Rs. 35 a month. The herb garden can only be given Rs. 400 a year. The scholarships to students have this year

gone down to Rs. 1,080 whereas the sum allotted to European Western system is Rs. 11,600. No wonder, Sir, the College has no attraction for ambitious students and an important branch of medicine is neglected. There is no travelling allowance given to the Pandit and to his students. Enormous quantity of medicinal herbs grow in the Bababudans and the hills are not exploited for purposes of medicinal herbs. I would suggest that the Ayurvedic College should be better equipped and handsome stipends allowed to graduates to proceed to Calcutta for training. Due encouragement ought to be given to that popular and cheap form of treatment. A new building ought to be erected, and attractive stipends allowed and the old form of treatment should once more be revived and the healing art should be made easily accessible to the masses who have ample faith in that treatment.

Medical.

The idea of charging fees for medicines dispensed in hospitals of Bangalore and Mysore seems to be repugnant to the time honoured ancient notion of charity in India. Sentiment plays an important part with us. Agriculturists are groaning under heavy taxes. It is only they that have to pay. Officials who are under no obligation to pay taxes are exempted from paying for medical aid. This is anomalous. This leads to several abuses not the least of which is the suppression of diseases. This sort of taxing the people should be avoided.

Vaccination.

Our vaccine lymph was once in great demand and was very effective. The calves were most healthy. At present unhealthy and poor calves are purchased and they are sold to butchers. The result is that ineffective lymph is produced. Strong and sturdy calves ought to be selected and approved by a Committee and they alone should be purchased and not sold to butchers.

General Administration.

The total State revenue in this year is expected to be Rs. 2,86,22,000, expenditure on general administration alone is shown as Rs. 11,62,000 and the amount to be spent on Taluk establishment as Rs. 6,10,503. In 1912-13 Taluk establishment cost Rs. 5,64,712. The Civil Secretaries have been costing us a good deal. In 1910-11 it was Rs. 2,39,900, and in 1911-12 Rs. 2,47,800 and 1912-13 Rs. 2,49,900, 1916-17 Rs. 3,33,500. The figures are jumping up rapidly. Much is not given for the improvement of the Taluk and District establishments who bear the brunt of work. There is no use of trimming the top and neglecting the root which forms the basis of the administration. Government ought to be aware that there is much discontent in the taluk and the district establishments at present, whose efficiency and contentment should first be secured in the interest of good government of the State.

The Financial Secretary instead of closing the Treasury gate against repeated onslaughts so justly made by Heads of Departments would have earned the blessings of several hard-worked officials, if some efforts had been made by him to improve their lot in their taluks.

Sir, the high paid offices in Bangalore and Mysore have personal, special, and other allowances attached to their pay and the engineers have had their time scale sanctioned with retrospective effect, but the hard-worked subordinates district and taluk offices have had the Treasury gates closed against them. May I ask why should the highly paid officers alone get more pay and allowances? This is the feature of the administration which the guiding authorities ought to bear in mind.

The Survey department has lumpsum grants allotted. It is not known how the grants are spent. Cannot the pay and grades be fixed so that people may know how the amount is expended.

As for the Economic Conference I can only say that the administrative machinery is unnecessarily being duplicated. The Central Committee may, if necessary, be kept up, but the District and Taluk Committees ought to be amalgamated with the existing public bodies, who are not now being well equipped.

The Economic Journal.

The Magazine is now published in two languages, English and Kannada. The latter edition is very popular and commands extensive sale. The publication costs for both Rs. 17,636, and the receipt is only Rs. 10,000. There are several journals of the kind in English all over the world dealing in economics, and I would venture to submit that the English part of the "Economic Journal" be discontinued and the Kannada edition made weekly.

Separation of Judicial and Executive Functions.

This is an often repeated prayer in the Representative Assembly and the Government are pleased to say that the principle has been recognised but it is only a question of funds. The Financial Secretary is capable of finding funds for less important matters and he must find ways and means to let go a sum of Rs. 1,00,000 annually for purposes of establishing stationary magistrates for a taluk or a group of taluks. The scheme ought to be given a fair trial at least in one district. But the Government do not seem to be in a fair mood to begin the trial, for in seven or eight taluks Amildars have since been reinvested with the magisterial powers. This will be a good educational training to the rural people and an early start ought to be made. This is an important, urgent reform and provision must be made in this year's budget alone.

The collection of revenue is falling down year after year. I want to draw attention of the Government to the figures given in the budget in this connection. Nothing has also been provided to meet the demands of inamdars to the toddy revenue, a question long pending with the Government. So also, no provision has been made for the improvement of the minor tanks in inam villages.

The last request which I have to lay before you on behalf of the citizens of Bangalore is so very important that I wish to lay upon it all the emphasis I can, and it is prayed that a branch railway line may be made to run to Basavangudi Extension *via* Chamrajapet from the City Railway Station. I need hardly say that I am not asking for too much when the people especially middle class and the poor are subjected to hardship particularly in the rainy season in these parts of the City, and I fully hope that suitable provision will be made in this year's budget for creating the convenience.

Mr. S. Seetharamaiya.—SIR,—The changes in the budget head, particularly, the introduction of Part III in the budget, make the arrangement more convenient and logical and materially facilitate references, for which we thank the Financial Secretary.

A comparison of the total revenue figures for the years 1914-15 and 1915-16, will show that there was an increase of 10,83,000 in 1915-16, over the total collection of 1914-15, notwithstanding the admitted fact that the collections in the last year were not quite satisfactory and we hope, as expected by the Financial Secretary, we will have a more satisfactory and better collection in the current year.

The suggestions so kindly offered by the Financial Secretary in the penultimate para of his introductory speech, that a sort of co-ordination in the work of non-official members be introduced in view to secure depth and thoroughness of criticism in a greater degree and his assurance to render any help that may be required of him, are really very useful, and I hope we will be able to find our way by the next budget time, to avail ourselves of the same.

In the concluding para of his speech, the Financial Secretary refers to the circumstances which necessitated cautiousness and great restraint in the matter of expenditure, so much so that many a scheme dear to the heart of the administrator and reformer had to be put off for want of funds, and many a departmental head with well-considered beneficial departmental schemes had to turn away from the gates of the treasury in disappointment, and no new project except the new University scheme, have been included in the programme for the current year.

But I am afraid this cautious policy of our Financial Secretary seems to have been adopted only in the case of unfortunate officers and officials, on whose contentment and enthusiasm depends to a very large extent the well-being of the

people of the State, and not to various new and costly appointments that have been sanctioned. I am glad to find however from the budget allotments that Shimoga District Feeder Railway and Shimoga-Bhatkal Railway have got for their survey a total sum of Rs. 47,000.

From this I am inclined to think that the original route as surveyed by Mr. Arunachala Iyer, at the cost of Rs. 20,000 has been abandoned, and a separate route is being surveyed in view to lay a broader gauge than originally thought of and surveyed. I am glad that at this initial stage only the Government were pleased to change the original 2'—6" gauge and to have metre gauge though this change caused a loss of Rs. 20,000 already spent on the first survey.

The Tarikere-Koppa Tram line, has not at all given satisfaction to the public, nor is it likely to do so in future unless the gauge of the line is changed and the work is carried out more substantially.

The same is the case with Shimoga Water Works. The supplemental estimate now sanctioned together with what had already been spent would have given us a more satisfactory and pakka scheme without any double work and loss.

From this experience of ours, we can safely say that the policy of carrying out cheap and hurried work on the principle that "half a loaf is better than none," will always land us in this disadvantageous position causing losses and not giving satisfaction to the public. It is hoped that the Government will be pleased hereafter to adopt a policy which would remedy this evil, and give satisfaction to all concerned.

Out of a total forest revenue of Rs. 25,63,000, the large sum of Rs. 15,00,000 is the realisation out of sandalwood, the remaining Rs. 11,63,000 being the income from all other diverse forest resources, timber, bamboos, etc. This unmistakably shows that the sandalwood is the most valuable commodity in the forest revenue. I would strongly suggest, Sir, that suitable schemes may be formulated for the expansion and encouragement of sandal plantations throughout the State where the soil is congenial to the growth of sandalwood.

We find from the figures given, that under Excise there is an improvement of 5 lakhs over the budget estimate of last year, in spite of a falling off of Rs. 1,80,000 under the head "duty on arrack and special liquors." No doubt this is a tempting item of revenue for the State. This rise, however, in this revenue is not a matter for congratulation to us. It has done serious harm both to the poor consumers and the unfortunate contractors who having made it their profession for a long time stick on to it and are practically ruined by unhealthy competition and who in their turn try to save themselves by throwing their losses rateably upon the poor consumers. Any way this loss has a disastrous effect on the poor drinking class and the subjects. In all civilized countries every effort is made to reform people and discourage drinking though not very successfully. Drinking, it is needless for me to say, is forbidden by all approved religions; and further drinking whose tendency is said to lead to excesses is admitted to be a slow poison; it shortens life, weakens the human system and brings on all sorts of complicated diseases. I would therefore invite your kind attention, Sir, to this growing evil and pray that a suitable plan be devised to see that people do not allow themselves to be ruined by this tempting material.

The income on impressing unstamped and insufficiently stamped documents has increased from 8,491 to 13,000 both last year and this year. This indicates the growth of commercial and financial activity on the one hand and indifference to, or more probably want of proper knowledge of Stamp Law, on the other hand. I would suggest as a sort of preventive remedy that copies of Stamp Regulation, translated in simple and easy Kannada language, may be freely distributed through the revenue authorities, to all the literate people of rural tracts, so that the people may be thoroughly conversant with the Stamp Law so as to transact their business on proper stamps.

Registration.

Under Registration the revenue realised this year is practically the same as in previous years with slight fluctuations; whereas the expenditure under this head

is Rs. 96,000 leaving a surplus of Rs. 1,04,000. The main object of this institution is, as I understand, more for safeguarding the rights and interests of the subjects than for adding to the State coffers. In this department, the salaries of the Sub-Registrars and their subordinates are comparatively poor, and are graduated by a scale passed several years ago. The Sub-Registrars are mostly graduates and have good reasons to feel disappointed and discontented for want of prospects. It is rumoured that there is a revised scheme pending before the Government providing for improved and satisfactory scale. If this be true, it may be kindly sanctioned and brought into force at an early date. Otherwise, a fresh revised scale may be passed providing for increase of their pay and of their staff and this just complaint be remedied as early as possible.

The Explanatory Memorandum of the able Financial Secretary shows (para 22) that in addition to the deduction of 2 lakhs made in the education budget, on account of probable savings, the expenditure under education has shown a further falling off to the extent of Rs. 1,71,000.

A study of the details given by him will convince us that the several sanctioned items of expenditure such as the amounts provided for the revision of the inspectorate, compulsory education, grants for normal schools and aided schools, and for scholarships, etc., have mostly remained unexpended. From this we can very well see that either the necessary materials for carrying out the several projects sanctioned are not available, or there is want of sufficient activity on the part of the authorities concerned, or that the country for whose benefit the several progressive projects have been sanctioned is not yet fully prepared to be the recipient of the same. In any case the sanctioned projects become useless till the effusive activity grows unequal to regulate the standard till the materials become available and the country actually feels the need for the same.

In the same way the volume and recurrences of lapses every year under other heads are, I think, generally due to the method of allotments without regard to the capacity and needs of the several departments concerned.

This system does not seem to be conducive to the welfare of the country as it keeps the people from having their other urgent needs met by Government, who when approached naturally say by reference to budget figures—"No FUNDS."

This is not all. These allotments will naturally induce the several departments to somehow spend the same, show progress in its administration and with this object, oftentimes, money is wasted in a hurried work at the fag end of the year in multiplying the number of subordinates and widening the scope of real or supposed activities, and in other similar ways.

This system of budgetting allotments will, it is hoped, hereafter be modified so as to avoid, as far as possible, such results.

Sir, in August, 1914, when the privilege of discussing the State budget was first opened to members of this Council, I suggested in my first speech certain projects for the kind consideration of the Government. I thankfully acknowledge that all my suggestions, except two, *viz.*, the *Bhadra Project* and the *Establishment of Telegraph Offices in all the taluk headquarters*, have been given effect to, and I hope these two items of public need will also be provided for by the Government at an early date.

Turning now, Sir, to the Malnad Improvement Scheme, I very much regret to say that its work has not justified the high hopes which the beneficent scheme originally gave rise to. While I must thank the Government for the deep interest which they have all along been evincing in the amelioration of malnad people, I am sorry to bring to the notice of the Government that even the comparatively small amounts sanctioned are not fully worked out year after year. In 1914-15 only Rs. 59,000 were spent and in 1915-16, the revised estimate has anticipated that Rs. 76,000 would be spent during the year. But I am afraid that even this expectation has not been fully realised. I have no means of knowing from the budget how much of these has been taken up by the establishment charges and travelling allowances. When these are deducted, the amounts spent on useful projects and works must indeed be very small.

I very much doubt if these poor results could not be better achieved by grants to District Boards and abolishing this costly agency. If, however, the Government

are not in favour of this, I hope that suitable steps will be taken to remedy this unfortunate state of affairs and make the work of this special agency more useful than it has actually proved till now.

I should like here to refer to one other point which is deeply interesting to a portion of the people of Shimoga and Kadur Districts. I refer to the fate of the two sub-taluks of Kumsi and Narasimharajapura. I hear that the question of the conversion of a few sub-taluks and the absorption of the rest is engaging the attention of Government. Sir, a careful study of the circumstances under which those sub-taluks were established and of the past and the present state of affairs connected with them will convince the Government of the great necessity for not only restoring both these public offices in those places, but also the necessity for converting them into pukka taluks and creating facilities to meet the present and the future needs of the public. Of these two sub-taluks, Sir, the necessity for making Narasimharajapura at least a pukka taluk headquarter has now become all the more pressing among other reasons from the recent establishment of a Munsiff's Court and its incidental increased monetary transactions in the Government treasury. Sir, on account of the absence of Government treasury at Narsimharajapura, all the transactions, big or small, of the Court and the court-going public are now as of necessity being conducted in the Taluk treasury at Koppa, which is situate at a distance of 14 miles in the midst of a continuous jungle. I would therefore strongly suggest, Sir, that immediate steps may kindly be taken for granting the above need.

In conclusion, I would like to represent to you, Sir, the great desirability of allowing the Members of this Council to move resolutions on the budget.

With these observations, Sir, I thank you and the other honourable members of the Council for the very patient hearing given to us.

Mr. B. V. Ramaswamy Chetty.—SIR,—The privilege of discussing the State Budget and passing an opinion thereon was given to the non-official members of this Council so that the Government may have the advantage of knowing what the non-official members who are said to represent the public—at least one portion of it—have to say. I feel it rather difficult to give an opinion on the budget for this reason that I do not know exactly what my duties and privileges are in this matter. From the way opinions were expressed last year and are being expressed this year also, one is led to think that regular lectures are expected in the way they are given here. I do not think that such a thing is necessary or called for. I am therefore of opinion that it is very necessary that we should receive some definite lessons about our duties and privileges with regard to this matter. I think it is very necessary that the meetings which have been suggested by the Financial Secretary between him and the non-official members of this Council should be brought about so that matters about which they wish to get correct information may be easily obtained and handled in a befitting manner. The suggestion made by some of the members here that there should be a Budget Committee for preliminary discussion is a very sound one and will, if given effect to, be of very great advantage to the non-official members.

With regard to the question of the separation of judicial and executive functions, it is a matter coming up before the Government in one form or another. Last year, it came up in the course of the budget discussion. It has come up for discussion over and over again at the Representative Assembly. This is a measure on which public opinion is strongly in favour and the Judges of the highest court have expressed their views freely in no uncertain terms. It seems that the Government are reluctant to bring it about on account of the cost, or that they do not want the time honoured system to be changed suddenly. If it is on the score of cost, then I have only to say that Government have undertaken much more costly schemes for the improvement of the country and if they only make up their mind, it would not be very difficult to find funds. It is high time that something is done with regard to this vexed question.

With regard to public improvements, last year there was a bitter complaint that except the Cities of Bangalore and Mysore, the smaller cities of the State, did not get anything towards their improvement. This year there is no such complaint. It is necessary that the needs of all places should receive consideration.

With regard to excise policy, last year I expressed my opinion. There is no doubt that the Government can pursue their policy in any manner they think fit, and we cannot assuredly say that the Government have erred in any particular. Simply because the Government are making some revenue in the Excise department, we cannot jump to the conclusion that the means adopted are not conducive to the prosperity of the poorer classes. We have to see what is the excise policy in the adjoining British Provinces. Is it a fact that those Governments are also making money? The point to be considered is this—there is a high demand for arrack on the part of the people; and this demand must be supplied. If it is not promptly supplied, we say it is not a good Government that cannot minister to the wants of the laboring classes. But do the Government force large quantities of arrack on the people? If so, there is a just complaint against Government. But they cannot but provide proportionately to the demand. This will certainly bring them money. But then it is the natural consequence of the position. If reform is wanted in this direction, it must come both from the Government and the people. If Government are not doing what they ought to do in the way of reforming the people, then what we have to do is to appeal to the Government. But in this case, there is no doubt that our Government are doing their best, and it is the business of the leaders of the people to see that the drink habit is discouraged. The reform should emanate from the people. This was the opinion I expressed last year also.

Then I have to say something about the way in which business is managed in the Lal-Bagh. I do not know if my information is correct, but if correct, steps should be taken to remedy the grievances. It would appear that latterly large quantities of seeds, etc., are being purchased by the authorities in the market and sold to the outsiders thus competing with genuine professional sellers of plants and seeds. I do not know if it is the legitimate function of the authorities in charge of the Lal-Bagh to undertake this business. There is no objection to their selling whatever they grow. But why should they go to the market and compete with the traders? The Government department concerned can if necessary, supply seeds and plants to the raiyats in order to induce them to grow a particular plant. But systematic purchase of these in the open market and supplying them to the outsiders works prejudicially to the traders in the field and should be discouraged.

With regard to the revision of the Chief Court, this is a matter which ought to receive the consideration of Government as soon as possible.

A suggestion has been made that peishkars or additional Deputy Amildars may be appointed to help the overworked Amildars. I do not agree with this view. To my mind there is sufficient dissatisfaction already as regards the work of the Amildars and Deputy Amildars and it is not necessary to have the peishkars.

Mr. Nawab Gulam Ahmad Kalami.—**MR. PRESIDENT,**—On behalf of the Mussalman subjects of His Highness the Maharaja I beg to offer the Government our most respectful appreciation of the privileges and facilities granted in an ever increasing measure for the discussion of the annual budget of the State. With the general advance of the people at large, these facilities will no doubt be properly availed of and the budget debate will prove the effective means of acquainting the Government with the inner thoughts of the people and the various problems that exercise their minds from year to year.

In the first instance, I beg to congratulate the Government on the sound budget they have been able to present even in these days of uncommon stress. The increase in the expected revenue and the decrease in the expenditure provided are no doubt due to the vigilance of the executive and reflect great credit on the present administration.

Agreeably to the suggestion of our learned Financial Secretary, I beg to confine my remarks to-day to that branch of the administration in which I take a special interest. Education has always appealed to me as a *sine qua non* of the general prosperity of any community and I am glad that His Highness' Government have been increasing from year to year the expenditure under this head. Two years ago, Sir, you spent but 15 lakhs on the diffusion of education, but to-day in spite of the abnormal conditions around us you are allotting 23½ lakhs for the same purpose. I hope and am sure that this expenditure will grow more and more and that our

educational system will improve still further until in the course of time it becomes a model for others to copy.

Of the 23½ lakhs provided for education I notice that no less than 13 lakhs are allotted for the University, secondary and special education of which only the advanced or the well-to-do classes can avail. The direction and the inspection cost over 1 lakhs and buildings over a lakh. This leaves only about 5 lakhs for primary education which reaches the lowest strata of society and, which is generally regarded as the primary duty of the State. In this connection let me refer for a moment to an impression which is unfortunately gaining ground in the minds of the voiceless millions. Even among the least intelligent people in the Province the question is often discussed whether the plentiful bounty of His Highness the Maharaja is benefiting all his subjects alike. The classes that are backward or depressed are the classes which have really built up the present Mysore, not only from geographical and historical stand-points but also from an economic point of view; and as these form at the same time the majority of His Highness' subjects, Government cannot on any account pass by their opinions in silence. I should therefore request the Government to take stock periodically of what is being done, to find out the relative proportion of expenditure on the different standards of education in the State and to assure themselves that the general tax-payer reaps the benefit of the educational expenditure to a sufficient extent. I am not against the spread of higher education, no, not by any means, but I beg that our educational institutions from the primary school upwards to the University should be worked in such a way that their advantages reach alike all the classes which claim allegiance to His Highness the Maharaja.

Descending from these generalities, Sir, I beg to draw your kind attention to the state of the education that has been provided for the Mussalman subjects of His Highness. This is a branch of the department which is invariably lost sight of even by those non-official members of the Council who are the chosen representatives of the people at large. I may venture to submit that Mahomedan education seems to have received inadequate attention at the hands of the Government also. No doubt, our Hindustani schools are well attended, but that is mostly due to the fact that it is the religious duty of every Mussalman parent to give his children elementary education. The great majority of our schools (indeed, all but 20 out of a total of about 400) have no buildings of their own. They are generally held on the pials of private houses, in ruined dwellings, in *Ashurkanas* and the like. They have no furniture to speak of. They are not as a rule equipped with any apparatus or appliance. Our girls' schools are even worse. We know, Sir, that you have been going round to all kinds of schools during your inspection tours. I beg of you to say if any Hindustani school can stand a favourable comparison with its Kannada sister in respect of building, furniture and equipment. Of the lakhs and lakhs that Government provided for education during the past five years, our schools had very little share. At your instance, Sir, twenty buildings were after all programmed last year, but only two of them seem to have made any progress so far and the amounts provided for the rest must have naturally lapsed. I appeal to you, Sir, to provide at least this year for the immediate improvement of Hindustani primary schools in respect of buildings, furniture and general equipment.

I now pass on to our Anglo-Hindustani schools, the schools through which Mussalman children have to pass, if they will go up to higher education. Here let me remind you, Sir, that the three lakhs of His Highness' Mussalman subjects have but six Government schools of this class in the whole Province. Two of these teach up to the Third Form and the remaining four up to the first. Of the former two, the condition of the Bangalore Model Anglo-Hindustani School was brought to the notice of the Government in this Chamber on a previous occasion. It is badly accommodated, badly staffed and badly furnished. For seven classes only five rooms are provided in a dark and dingy old building with a leaky roof. The institution is understaffed in the sense that the staff sanctioned is not fully entertained. A class of fifty boys has but one master and this has continued year after year. No proper desks, no suitable boards, no library, no tiffin rooms, no museum, no garden and no play ground. Such is our Model School at the very headquarters of the Government, the school which, we were assured the other day by the Educational Minister

himself, was started in 1912, "with the object of affording greater facilities to Mahomedan pupils to study English up to the Lower Secondary Standard." The Anglo-Hindustani School at the capital is no better. Situated as it is by the side of the Kannada School, it is indeed a standing monument of the disparity of treatment meted out to the Hindustani Schools as compared with the Kannada Schools. The remaining four Anglo-Hindustani Schools teaching up to first form are even worse than their prototypes in Bangalore and Mysore. How the department rests satisfied with their efficiency is a wonder even to lay men who have visited these institutions.

In respect of the Normal Schools which prepare masters for Hindustani Schools we have actually suffered of late. Two of these which existed in Shimoga and Kolar have been abolished and only one is left now at Mysore as an auxiliary to the Kannada Training School and located in its out-houses. On the other hand, the Kannada teachers are about to have one Normal School in every district. The increase from 24 to 30 in the total number of our stipendiaries is certainly very laudable. But side by side with the increase in the number of Kannada stipendiaries from 66 to 300, our increase pales into insignificance. In the Upper Secondary class the twelve stipends once allowed to Mussalman teachers have been cut down to 8, while the 18 allowed to Kannada masters have been increased to 40. And all this during a period when the number of the Hindustani Schools has been steadily on the increase! I leave it to you, Sir, to say if this policy is fair or satisfactory.

From the Upper Secondary class the teachers pass to the Pandits' or Moulvies' class. A comparison of the condition of these two classes is also depressing to the Mahomedan mind. We do not grudge the consideration that the Government pay to our sister communities; on the other hand, we shall be glad if even larger sums are spent on their education. All that we pray is that we may also be regarded as deserving of similar support from the State.

In their proceedings on the latest Public Instruction Report, the Government draw "the attention of the Mahomedan community to the comparatively low number of boys in the higher classes in spite of the liberal provision for special scholarships, freeships and half-freeships." What can the community do, Sir, when the system of education provided for us is so faulty, when the intermediate link between our primary and higher education is so weak? We have a broad base of primary schools, Government, aided and unaided, and our numbers there count by tens of thousands. We have only a couple of Anglo-Hindustani Schools teaching up to the Third Form and their strength is about 300. In the High School classes our numbers naturally dwindle down to a few units. Such being the case, the wonder is that, in these days of the "slaughter of the innocents," any Mahomedan young man survives the Secondary stage and goes up to the College? I invite the Government to bestow some little thought on this question and provide more facilities for the immediate education of Mussalman boys in the State, through their own vernacular.

Please, Sir, do not misunderstand my attitude. I am not asking for any special concessions or privileges exclusively for my community. I hold that the system of education provided by the State out of the tax-payers' money should be suited to the circumstances of the people concerned instead of the State expecting the people to adopt themselves to the system provided. In this view, I do insist that Hindustani Schools should be designed and worked so as to satisfy the needs of the Mussalman community and whatever I ask for Mussalmans I likewise ask for all the classes similarly circumstanced.

I remember that Rome was not built in a day and reform cannot be accomplished as soon as defects are discovered. But what is essential is that the angle of vision must change and a practical beginning must be made. May I look up to you, Sir, to do something in this matter that we may feel sure that we have your substantial sympathy. To begin with, the Model School in Bangalore and the Anglo-Hindustani School in Mysore may be reorganized on lines so often pressed upon the Education department. The salaries now allowed can never secure the services of qualified Mussalman teachers as their supply is not equal to the demand. Higher education is not so widely diffused amongst us as amongst our

more advanced brethren and we cannot expect a Mussalman graduate or under-graduate to be content to start life as a teacher on the same salary as others quite differently circumstanced may be able to do. A qualified Mussalman has, open to him, more lucrative lines of employment here and elsewhere than the present Mysore Educational Service. If you will please improve the grades of the teaching staff and put them in line with the grades current in similar Mussalman institutions in British India and some of the Native States, there will be no difficulty in securing the services of qualified men. The furniture and equipment of these schools may also be improved. I request you to provide this year some little amount, say, not less than five thousand, specially for this purpose even as crumbs dropping from the different items in the budget. Like all other progressive people of the present day, Mussalmans cannot rest content with mere promises of future attention. Last year, Sir, you promised us twenty school buildings. I am more modest and ask you to put up a dozen buildings during the current year. Above all, I pray, make one of the Assistants of the Inspector-General responsible for all that you intend and promise. As it is, we hold conferences, make representations and obtain pledges but there the matter ends. Nobody seems to consider it his business to carry out the resolutions of the Government. In the name of the efficiency of your administration, I appeal to you, Sir, to mend or end once for all this most unsatisfactory state of affairs.

In conclusion, may I say that it is with great pain and reluctance that I have had to recount to-day some of our most pressing educational needs. I have spoken rather frankly under the belief that it is my loyal duty to keep the Government informed of what is passing in our minds, to bring to their notice some of the grievances we suffer from and the manner in which they may be redressed. I beseech you, Sir, and your colleagues of the Government to grant the prayers asked for and earn the lasting gratitude of my community.

Mr. M. Basavaiya.—SIR,—The Financial Secretary has to be congratulated on the financial statement that has been laid before the Council, which shows some progress. He shows a nominal surplus and yet says that there is a standing credit for 69 lakhs of rupees. In these circumstances, I cannot pause long in congratulating the Financial Secretary. If everything is satisfactory, I do not understand why he suggests that there must be a temporary loan. The Productive Works, items 31 to 41, show an excess expenditure of 74 lakhs, while the Public Administration, items 15 to 30, 120,48,000. Under these circumstances we are able to see that the increase in the cost of the machinery of Government now working at its maximum is not able even to leave a fair margin in the budget for certain other works which the people and the Government both desire. In the first place, there is the separation of the judicial and executive functions. It has been very strongly advocated in this Council already and the Chief Court have also spoken in its favour. It does not appear that the Government are able to go on with the measure at an early date on account of the difficulty of funds. As much as 74 lakhs has been devoted to the Public Works, no doubt for productive works. This is really an extremely large amount to spend when we have got many other important measures awaiting provision of funds. At present, nearly 25 per cent of our revenues go to the Public Works Department and as such no amount can be provided for the development of many a scheme which ought to require early attention. I would press on the attention of Government the necessity of taking immediate steps in the matter of this important measure of reform. As a first step in that direction, the Government may appoint Stationary Sub-Magistrates in thirty-three places as an experimental measure. The pay of these officers may range from Rs. 80 to 100. The Government will have to spend about a lakh of rupees at the initial stage both on the establishment and the pay of the officers. But the expenditure is worth having and must be provided.

Secondly, we have not got enough money to pay more attention to the relief of the medical men. I would suggest that in all taluks side by side with the Sub-Assistant Surgeon for the Local Fund Dispensary, another travelling Sub-Assistant Surgeon with a certain amount of stock medicines and other important necessaries be attached, so that he may be able to go about a certain number of villages where there are not such facilities by turns and administer to their wants. In the malnad and other parts beyond the reach of medical men there has been much distress

and sickness prevailing and when we are devoting considerable amounts of money in furnishing hospitals, etc., at headquarter towns of Bangalore and Mysore, we must be able to give some attention to the relief of these out of the way people. We must also see to the thorough re-organization of the Gazetted and subordinate services so that the Government may get the maximum of efficiency in order to devote more energy for the development of special schemes.

I suggested just now that I was not very much in a position to congratulate the Financial Secretary on the financial success. Firstly because, in the scheme of the Kannambadi works the amount that has till now been sanctioned is, according to the information available, 105 lakhs, but the stage of work at which we now find it is that the dam has not yet reached the initial stage of 80 feet, in certain portions it is 75 feet, in certain other portions it is about 60 feet, while in other portions the foundation is still being dug out. Thus we find that the initial stage is not yet complete although according to the original estimate, the initial cost was to be about 85 lakhs. I do not understand how the original estimate of 85 lakhs has now been increased to 105 lakhs, whether there were any unforeseen circumstances that brought about the increase. I beg also to point out that no very large machinery was obtained for the dam works and as such there is no apparent reason why there should have been so much increase. This is a work of great magnitude and it is likely that at the rate at which the work is done before the final stage is reached the cost will grow to be immensely larger than the estimate and it is desirable that the public should know that in this large productive work, the Government will get their money's worth. I therefore suggest that in order to satisfy ourselves that the amount is properly spent a Committee or an outside Engineer may be appointed to estimate the work done and report whether really Rs. 105 lakhs worth of work has been done.

There is one other point, viz., the question of lapses. On page 6 of the Memorandum we find that, on the question of compulsory education the allotment of 1,41,000 has lapsed. It has been the intention of Government to develop the compulsory education scheme for which a large allotment was made. But the public is entitled to know why nothing has been done and the amount allowed to lapse. If it should be suggested that this amount has not lapsed but has been spent within the last one month or two, as I anticipate the Inspector-General of Education probably to explain, I beg to ask whether any important measure which has been worked in such haste could show that amount of benefit which it otherwise would show? Similarly, under grant-in-aid schools, 97,000 has been shown as lapsed. In these cases, more than the Inspector-General of Education or the Inspectorate, the Amildars have invariably taken the initiative in trying to establish schools with a promise that Government will meet them half way; and after the schools are opened and the grants are withheld, what would be the position in the eyes of the people, of those Amildars who did so much on behalf of the Department? If it is our object to see more aided schools spring up, it is desirable that under no circumstances should the grants be allowed to lapse, but the amount should be utilized to the fullest extent.

On the question of the police re-organization Mr. B. Narasinga Rao has said everything that need be said. It is but right that the hands of the Inspector-General of Police should be strengthened to re-model the police staff. For, those that have any insight into the working of the police here will see that the police are not as efficient as they should be.

A word about the jail industries. The jail industries are supposed to be in working order. But when we actually go there and see, nothing will have been done there. Either the jail industries are meant to be a kind of ornamental sort of work or no work at all. If orders are given for anything, the jail authorities are not able to execute them. It is understood that the jail labour is cheaper and if they are not able to cope with the market on account of insufficient provision made for industries there, it is desirable that more amount should be provided and that the industries should be improved.

Then there is the question of moving resolutions in the Council. It is true that we have been given the right of interpellations. It should be admitted that the right of interpellation can only be auxiliary to the right of moving resolutions.

If the latter is not given, then the former reduces itself to the position of individual curiosity to ask a question and get an answer and nothing more. In the interests of the development of the functions of this Council and also to strengthen the hands of the non-official members, it is quite necessary that the Council should be given the right of moving resolutions.

There is one point on which I am not very clear. In the statement given by the Financial Secretary on page 54 of the detailed budget, item 11, col. 3, there is a provision for temporary loans and interest of 3 lakhs. There is a provision of 3,65,000 in 1916 and it appears to have been revised and in that revision it has been reduced to 91,000. In his explanation he suggests that a temporary loan had to be raised and it was cleared in the course of the year. If the temporary loans have been raised and cleared up, and if there had been a surplus of 69 lakhs available while a sum of only 75 lakhs was required at the beginning of the year, I fail to understand why there must be a loan raised to the extent of making the Government liable to the extent of 3 lakhs interest. That would mean that even calculating at 4 per cent interest, the loan was for 75 lakhs. In item 12 we find the Government Savings deposits that make Government liable for interest to the extent of 2,25,000. There is again the State Life Insurance amount. Under item 12, there is an amount of 3,84,000 interest, which stands for some deposits which either have not been utilized or has been expended too, and which all the same makes the Government liable to the extent of 7,65,000. This position, I have not been able to understand. I hope the Financial Secretary will explain this matter and show how under these circumstances, the financial result was satisfactory.

Mr. H. Narasinga Rao.—SIR,—The separation of the judicial and executive functions is a simple and practical scheme which can be brought into effect at a cost of not more than a lakh of rupees. There are now 20 Munsiffs' Courts. A sum of about 4 lakhs and odd is now debited to the judicial department on account of the criminal work performed by the Amildars, Sub-Division Magistrates, etc. Now, with only a simple adjustment of work between the Revenue and Judicial Departments, the scheme can be immediately worked. The number of Munsiffs may be increased to 60, placing one Munsiff in each taluk and all Criminal and Civil work in that taluk may be entrusted to the Munsiff, leaving the Revenue Officers, free for executive duties only. No new appointments need be made. The 39 Assistant Commissioners who now exercise magisterial functions may all be made Munsiffs Assistants. Out of 4,12,300, what is required is only 3,00,000 and the Government will utilize the rest towards the cost of Munsiffs. The parties will save some expense, and there will be speedy justice. Munsiffs are moreover, more popular than Assistant Commissioners. I am prepared to elaborate the scheme, if the Government approve of the lines above suggested. I may also state that a similar system is in vogue in Baroda.

Another point I may refer to is this:—The Judicial department is starved. While every other department gets increases, this department alone is not in favour. The Public Prosecutors are paid very little. Rs. 150 is not an attractive sum at all for a fairly good lawyer. It is only people who cannot command any practice that aspire to this place.

Take the question of the Law Reporter. It was the Retrenchment Committee that recommended the abolition of a separate appointment of a Law Reporter and tacked on his work to the Registrar of the Chief Court who was already overburdened with other work. The result is,—the reports are belated, those that are issued are full of mistakes, and sufficient scrutiny is not exercised in the compilation. I therefore submit that greater attention should be paid to the Judicial department although it may entail a little more expense.

The claims of the backward community have been so often brought before this Council that although it is a thorny matter, I should like to say something from another point of view. I should not, however, be understood to speak with any spirit of challenge. There was great opposition yesterday, Sir, when the amendment with regard to the imparting of religious instructions was put forward, on the ground that it would lead to endless difficulties and dangers. But when an open declaration was made by the Inspector-General of Education regarding the preference he

was invariably giving to non-Brahmins in the matter of awarding scholarships to students, there was not a single vote of protest from any of the honourable members of this Council. This open declaration by the Inspector-General of Education is calculated to do more harm than the teaching of religion in Schools and Colleges. It is calculated to stir up ill-feeling between the Brahmin and other communities. It simply means it is a sin to be born a Brahmin and a merit to be a non-Brahmin. The time is very opportune to raise a voice of protest against the action of the Head of the Education department and the attitude of the Government also.

The claims or the agitation of the champions of the backward classes are briefly these:—

(a) that for political purposes the people of Mysore should be grouped into two communities only, the Brahmin and the Non-Brahmin or the Forward and the Backward communities.

(b) the percentage of the Brahmin to the non-Brahmin population is 1 to 30. At present all the schools and colleges are flooded with this small community to the disadvantage of the whole of the backward communities. So also the public service and the skilled professions are swarmed by this community. The remedy that is suggested for this evil is, that this small community must be heavily handicapped by showing special encouragement to the backward classes to enter into the portals of all the educational institutions in the country and throw open to them the doors of the public service so that the percentage of admission and employment may ultimately adjust itself to 1 to 30 according to the ratio of population. This, Sir, seems to be the gist of the agitation of these champions. This agitation has been steadily increasing in volume by what is supposed to be, wrongly of course in my opinion, the direct and indirect encouragement of Government and is creating a lot of discontent and heart-burning among the Brahmin community. If this unhealthy and undesirable spirit is not checked the necessary consequence will inevitably be disastrous to all the communities. The Brahmin community, Sir, though they have a monopoly of learning are generally poor, and the majority of them are veritable beggars. By the aggressive attitude of the backward community, they will be forced to put forward their claims for special recognition. They will say: "We are very poor—throw open the doors of all other less intellectual professions such as industries, commerce and agriculture by giving us special encouragement in the way of scholarships and freeships for the study of these professions. Give us land on easy tenure for the purpose of cultivation. When there is a competition between a Brahmin and a non-Brahmin for obtaining a land give preference to us" and so on. How would the backward community receive such claims on the part of the Brahmins? If the Government are driven to recognize such a claim on the part of the forward community, I am sure, Sir, both the communities will suffer irretrievably owing to their respective inherent incapacity. The Brahmin is, Sir, by birth, by tradition, by his habits and surroundings, eminently fit for intellectual study and intellectual occupations and the backward communities for similar reasons are eminently fitted for less intellectual and more mechanical study and occupations. Of course there are honourable exceptions to the above statement. All communities must be looked upon as members of one family consisting of a father, mother, children and servants. In a well regulated family each member has certain duties to perform according to his position and capacity. They are all to work in harmony without crying to usurp one another's functions and without quarrelling with each other.

Thus, you will see that the policy of encouraging a particular community by artificial stimulations is most mischievous in its consequences. It encourages incapacity, it kills all talent, it creates endless difficulties and dangers which may ultimately be irremediable. The best policy would be, Sir, to throw open

every institution and every occupation to every body irrespective of the community to which he belongs and let those who have the inclination and capacity enter and profit by it.

Rajasabhabushana Dewan Bahadur Mr. K. P. Puttanna Chetty.—SIR,—It is just two years ago that His Highness was pleased to grant to the non-official members of this Council the privilege of discussing the State budget. I am happy to say from the manner in which my non-official colleagues have discharged their duties to-day, that they highly prize this privilege. They have discussed the budget with independence and ability, a critical acumen and grasp of detail which I admire very much indeed. Although it is not possible to agree with all that they said, yet some things which I intended to say have been so well said by them that it is unnecessary for me to refer to them again. My learned friend, Mr. Chakravarti has been subjected to a tornado of criticisms and I am sure he will be able to give a very good account of himself as soon as he rises on his feet to reply.

Something has been said about the increase of establishments and the increase of expenditure in all the departments of Government. Speaking broadly, in an enlightened State like Mysore, with a progressive administration, it is inevitable that expenditure should increase. I think we must all recognize that as a prime-factor in the administration of a State like Mysore. We cannot remain where we are. If expenditure increases, it is due to the trend of the times, the force of improvements, that have been initiated here, and we must also remember that the principles which regulate public finance are not the same as these which regulate the finances of an individual. Public finance is a big subject and those who have made a special study of it alone can be able to criticize it with a certain degree of confidence and authority. For instance, with a private individual it is quite permissible to board up a certain sum of money for his future needs and for his descendants. But I think such a principle cannot be allowed to operate in the case of a Government. Very able treatises exist on this subject of Public Finance and I think Mr. Venkatakrishnaiah himself quoted one of the latest authorities on the subject.

Looking at the budget that has been placed before this Council, we see that both sides have been nicely balanced and the Financial Secretary with his remarkable mastery of figures and facts has been able to meet all the anticipated expenditure and has given us to boot a handsome surplus of Rs. 28,000 which in fullness of time and judging from past experience may develop to 28 lakhs. He might just now have something up his sleeves, the ways and means for providing for certain extra expenditure, and he may perhaps find by his financial strategy another couple of lakhs for the Bangalore City improvements and a lakh for the separation of the executive and judicial functions. I am sure if he has got the will to do it he will find the way. One suggestion has been put forward at this meeting—and this same suggestion I also made a year or two ago—that a few non-official members of this Council should be included in the personnel of the Retrenchment Committee. I do not think Government need fear any inquisitorial conduct on the part of non-official members if they are associated with officials. They will then be in a better position to criticize, and they will do so from inside with full knowledge and not from outside as at present. Then criticism in that case will carry much weight not only in this Council but also outside it. With all the facts before them, they will then probably find their way to support or at least modify their attitude with regard to things which they attack now as unreasonable. I therefore think it would be a wise step to take the leaders of the people into the Retrenchment Committee.

The next suggestion, related to the formation of a Budget Committee as in British India. I think it is a wise suggestion, which the Government are bound in the natural sequence of things, to grant to this Council. It is only proper that the non-official members of this Council should have a voice in framing the details of the budget and then their criticisms will be much less bitter in regard to the measures of Government. I therefore think that some non-official members of this Council may be placed on the Retrenchment Committee and that a Budget Committee may be appointed to discuss the details beforehand previous to its being brought up before the Council. Turning to the details of the budget, there are only one or two points which I wish to refer to.

Excise Policy.

Some very good points are brought out in regard to this matter. No doubt our excise revenue is increasing. But it could not be helped. The first step towards meeting the demands of the members may perhaps be to grant a certain amount of local option. If this is done at first as a tentative measure in the cities of Bangalore and Mysore, I think a great step forward will have been taken in the solution of a very difficult problem. The Government should not grudge to make a sacrifice of some revenue, if by so doing they can reduce the amount of drink and also dissuade the classes who are now addicted to drink from that habit. I would therefore propose that local option be introduced in Bangalore and Mysore Cities in the first instance.

Something has been said about the Bangalore-Chikballapur Light Railway. The line from Yelahanka to Chikballapur has already been opened and the section from Yelahanka to Bangalore is under construction and I hope this section will also be completed in a few months. Governments' liability to pay the guaranteed interest on the open line will begin from the 1st April this year. I hope the day is not far distant when we shall be able to earn not only the whole of the guaranteed interest but much more above it. The prospects of the line are very good indeed.

Some questions have been raised with reference to the gauge of railways. I may point out that Mr. Dove-Wilson has written a very able memorandum on the Railway construction in Mysore and he is of opinion that it is far more advantageous to have one gauge of railways than several. He has given facts and figures to prove that a light metre gauge will not cost very much more than the 2' 6" gauge. The advantage of having an uninterrupted gauge is too patent to say much about. That memorandum has been published in the Mysore Gazette and I believe in Chitaldrug recently the conclusions of Mr. Dove-Wilson have been accepted by the local authorities and they propose to construct a new line on the metre gauge. I wish this point to be specially remembered by the members and I want them to peruse this note of Mr. Dove-Wilson and if they agree with his opinion, it is hoped that the members of this Council will support this gauge alone for the district lines.

Mr. Krishnamurti Rao has said something about having a railway station at Basavangudi. I may say in this connection that the projected Hosur line will have a station at Basavangudi. The line will run some where near the Tata Silk Farm and on to the bund of the Kempambudi tank and thence to the maidan near the Barr lines. So that it is not quite necessary to have a new line projected for giving a station to Basavangudi. The only thing is that Government should take early action in the construction of this important line.

I think, on the whole, we have every reason to be satisfied with the budget placed before us and if you, Sir, will kindly see your way to make provision for such small sums as are asked by the members for good reasons, we shall have every reason to be gratified. Our best congratulations are due to the Government of His Highness the Maharaja for the very satisfactory financial statement that they have been able to place before this Council.

Mr. C. S. Doraswami Iyer.—SIR,—I must admit that I have not been taking any active part in the discussion of the budget, not because there was no desire in me to actively associate myself with the discussion going on all these two days but because I felt it very difficult to understand what I could with propriety say on such occasions. As an official member I am perhaps, as others are, expected to defend the policy of Government as reflected in the budget in the department with which I am intimately connected, *viz.*, the Department of the Law Officers of Government.

The Dewan.—No, you may not do it.

Mr. C. S. Doraswami Iyer.—SIR,—I have been spared that trouble also but I may add that while the Government has been accused of spending large sums of money in other departments, the department of the Law Officers of Government

has been left severely alone; because all the non-official members seem to be unanimously agreed that whatever extravagance there may be in other departments there is none in the department represented by me.

Mr. D. M. Narasinga Rao.—SIR,—We have heard with a great deal of interest the able speeches made by non-official members. They have made several suggestions of a very useful character and have also raised questions which necessitate furnishing information to them. There are only a few general remarks which I wish to make before dealing with two or three items which call for some explanation.

We have heard more suggestions on retrenchment of expenditure than for the expansion of revenue. At present there is some difficulty in the method of discussion on the part of official members in dealing with the criticisms of non-officials. On the Government side, the budget is published well before hand and the non-official members are given opportunity of studying it and offering criticisms thereon. But Government have no means of knowing before hand what remarks the non-official members would make in the Council. On this ground if non-official members could favour Government confidentially with advance copies of their speeches, they would pave the way for a more efficient discussion of the budget and for a supply of fuller information to them. To prevent the proceedings from becoming stale the speeches might be treated as strictly confidential. It would be useful whenever non-official members propose retrenchments of expenditure or make suggestions for enhanced expenditure, suggestions are also made as to ways and means.

With these general remarks I may deal with three items namely:—Efficiency Audit Department, Malnad Improvement and Medical Relief. In regard to the Efficiency Audit, Mr. B. Narasinga Rao said that the public were quite in the dark as to the lines of work adopted by that department although there is a provision of Rs. 25,000 for it. I should therefore like to take this opportunity of briefly explaining some of the details regarding the work of the Efficiency Audit Department.

The work of the efficiency Audit Branch like that of any other office establishment consists largely of little, unremembered and undistinguished acts of service which go to constitute the volume of Government business. But there is something distinctive about the Efficiency Audit Branch which renders a portion of its work at least, capable of definition and appraisal.

No small difficulty had been felt in finding one's way through the tangle of Government orders passed from time to time. Except in a few instances, these orders had not been compiled in a form available for ready reference, and an agency was urgently needed to undertake this work. The Efficiency Audit Branch to which it has been entrusted has during the past two years completed three compilations of Standing Orders and assisted in the compilation of four manuals. It has on hand five important compilations some of which are nearly complete. Nine compilations of a minor character have been prepared and issued. Three more are ready for issue.

In addition, however, to compiling rules and Standing Orders, the Branch has to expedite, scrutinise and co-operate in the preparation of manuals by the different departments. The magnitude of the task will be understood when I say that under our compilation programme, there are some 50 manuals which have to be prepared or which are under preparation in the different departments, in addition to compilations undertaken directly by the Branch itself.

Another species of important work done by the Branch is the standardisation of office methods. Some of you are probably aware that improved rules have been recently issued for conducting, registering and filing correspondence. Rules have also been framed for the speedy disposal of petitions. Measures such as these—I only quote instances—if they do not produce any immediate or substantial results, inevitably lead, though by cumulative steps, to a tangible improvement of work. A special agency for the study and improvement of business methods is coming more and more to be regarded as an essential equipment of modern Government machinery.

5. The standardisation of inspections is another direction in which work has been proceeding. The offices and institutions which require periodical inspection,

the frequency of such inspection, the points to be attended to in the inspection of the various offices are being elaborated and the work is in various stages of progress, being completed in ten instances.

The officers of the Efficiency Audit Branch have also to conduct inspections when required to do so. These inspections are intended not so much to discover and make much of irregularities, but rather to improve the general system of work. In 8 cases such inspections have been undertaken and some of the heads of the offices concerned, including the Honorary President of the Bangalore City Municipality who is one of the most respected members of this Assembly have expressed their appreciation of the value of such work.

Then there are many large questions relating to the various departments which are referred to the Efficiency Audit Branch for study. Thirty such questions have during the past two years been studied by the Branch and suggestions made.

The Efficiency Audit officers have also to undertake enquiries into complaints made against the conduct of officers whenever their services are required by Heads of Departments and Deputy Commissioners. I may add that such enquiries have elicited information in some cases which would have been impossible to secure in the ordinary way. But such enquiries, however useful, are not the life and breath of the Efficiency Audit staff. Their work lies mostly in suggesting and working out improved methods of business and in rendering general assistance to Government in the branches of work assigned to them.

I may here remind the members of the Council that this is not a branch of the administration which is by any means overmanned or highly paid and it can cause no uneasiness to the staunchest adherents of economy and retrenchment. Though a provision of Rs. 24,000 is made in the budget every year, the total expenditure of the branch on establishment for more than two years hardly exceeds Rs. 22,000. The expenditure incurred is not therefore equal to one year's allotment.

The routine work done by the Efficiency Audit Branch since it was constituted, consists briefly of the following items:—

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|--|--------------------|
| (1) Offices inspected, including audit of accounts | 8 during 12 months |
| (2) Enquiries conducted | 4 during 7 months |

MAJOR COMPILATIONS.

- | | |
|---|----|
| (3) Manuals prepared and issued | 3 |
| (4) Manuals prepared and pending issue | 3 |
| (5) Manuals under preparation | 2 |
| (6) Manuals revised and scrutinised | 4 |
| (7) Miscellaneous compilations prepared and issued | 9 |
| (8) Miscellaneous compilations ready and awaiting issue | 3 |
| (9) Inspection Rules issued | 13 |
| (10) Record rules issued | 13 |

The above account does not include many an item relating to suggestions of new schemes of improvement, some of which have been sanctioned by Government and others are pending the consideration of Government.

As regards the Malnad Improvement a brief account of work done may perhaps interest the Council:—

- (1) Rank vegetation has been cleared in 437 villages. The encouraging feature here is that raiyats have themselves undertaken and done the work without any cost to the Malnad Improvement Committee, in about 360 villages. The investigations and experiments made near the Panama Canal go to show that this work is most important for removing malaria.
- (2) Forty drinking water wells have been sunk and good water tapped.
- (3) Drainage has been improved in thirty villages.
- (4) About a dozen pamphlets have been issued on sanitary matters and several lectures with the aid of magic lanterns are being delivered by the District Sanitary officers.
- (5) About 4 lakhs of quinine packets have been distributed free of cost.

(6) Four itinerant dispensaries have been sanctioned.

(7) About a dozen vaccinators have been trained and employed and a dozen midwives are undergoing training. This has been arranged by the Committee and it is a part from the departmental programme.

(8) In regard to the attraction of settlers, Government have sanctioned a liberal scheme and the formation of 2 colonies is in progress.

(9) A disease survey has been taken up as a preliminary to execution of the programme against malaria.

(10) Efforts are being made by the Malnad Improvement Committee at Shimoga to start combined Industrial Schools and Workshops at Tirthahalli and Kallurkatte on co-operative basis.

(11) Further, the Shimoga District Committees are about to start an Industrial School at Shimoga.

The following items have just been sanctioned:—

(1) Establishment of model villages.

(2) A programme of expansion of roads and communications.

(3) Free grant of timber in deserving cases for housebuilding has been ordered and, to expedite house construction, Amildars have been authorised to grant building sites.

(4) Employment of itinerant lecturers.

The undermentioned items are under consideration:—

(1) The question of land banks is being investigated by a Sub-Committee of the Shimoga District Committee.

(2) It is proposed to conduct a debt survey.

(3) The establishment of a tile factory at Narasimharajapura and also of a saw-mill and works for burning charcoal.

There have been some lapses partly as it took some time to get together the establishments required and partly on account of difficulties of securing labour.

In the beginning, the establishment charges will be necessarily high. But as more funds become available and the establishment completes all preliminary, the progress of works will be appreciably quickened.

But it is not quite fair to calculate, in a case of this kind, the proportion of the cost of establishment on the total amount spent. Because, it does not make sufficient allowance for very valuable deliberative and educative work done by the Committees.

The Committees are composed of the chief officers of Government and chief non-officials. They get all reasonable assistance from Government. The people are anxious to improve their lot in the malnad. The conditions are all favourable for a satisfactory execution of the scheme.

It would be retrograde policy to throw the burden of this work on the District Board as suggested by Mr. Seetharamiah. The aim of its constitutional altogether different. It has work of its own to attend to. The scheme is more likely to be executed satisfactorily by a Special Committee such as the Malnad Improvement Committee.

In regard to the levy of fees for medicines in the Victoria Hospital, it was pointed out by Mr. Basavaiya that, at the time of opening that Institution it was announced that no fees would be levied therein. I think that statement goes a little beyond the speech made on that occasion. Here is the passage concerned:—

"It is Her Highness' desire that the Victoria Hospital should be maintained as a public charitable Institution; available to sufferers of all classes without distinction and as it will be fitted with all the latest improvements and appliances, it may confidently be claimed, that those who resort to it, will derive all the benefit which modern science can provide for the alleviation of human suffering, and every endeavour will be made to maintain it in a high state of efficiency, so that it may deservedly rank as one of the foremost Hospitals in India, and be a befitting memorial to a Reign, the public beneficence of which has only been excelled by the benevolence and charity of Her Most Gracious Majesty's personal life."

Government considered before the issue of orders, that this statement, did not make fees being recovered from the richer classes. The mere fact that fees are levied from the rich does not alter the character of a charitable institution. Charity may be necessary for the poor but superfluous in the case of the rich. In the Bombay Presidency, for instance, fees are levied on a very large scale in institutions which are styled and deemed charitable. In opening the Minto Hospital, His Highness the Maharaja was pleased to observe "I should like to see more private medical Practitioners in the State and I am anxious that, both in the matter of medical education and education, my people should rely more and more on themselves." It is the object of encouraging private medical practitioners that the levy of fees was ordered by Government. Probably this Council knows that on the 12th of 1916, an order was issued directing the levy of fees from Government servants whose monthly pay is Rs. 50 and above. This information may afford some satisfaction to the non-official members.

As regards the rates in force in Bangalore and Mysore there was some misapprehension yesterday. An out-patient will be charged at the rate of two annas for attendance and not dose and such payment includes charges on account of medicine (including a minor operation) and medicine supplied for a day.

In Bombay those who pay a land revenue of Rs. 300 and more per year, or whose annual income is Rs. 500 or more per year and Government servants drawing Rs. 40 and more per month are considered to be rich for the purposes of levy of fees, viz., one anna for the first call and annas eight for the subsequent calls besides charges for medicines. In Madras, persons drawing Rs. 60 or more per mensem are considered to be rich and they are charged for medicines and in-patients drawing Rs. 25 or more per mensem are similarly treated. The limit in Mysore, as you are aware, is Rs. 50 and above. It is more liberal than in Bombay and perhaps less so than in Madras.

Mr. C. S. Balasundaram Iyer.—SIR,—I shall not detain the Council with any long remarks at this late hour. It is a very satisfactory feature that in this Budget a new Head, 25 (A), has been formed in which grants for public improvements and developments have been shown in one place. It is very satisfactory that a small grant has been made for the improvement of the water-supply in the city. The provisions made under Village Improvement are very useful for effecting sanitary and other improvements in villages outside the municipal towns and some of which were necessary for the improvement of sanitation and water-supply in towns. In this connection, I wish to take the opportunity of communicating to this Council the very great gratitude of the people of the Chitaldrug town for making a grant of $\frac{1}{2}$ of the cost of the water supply of that town and I only trust that the Government will in the same sympathetic spirit view the matter till the scheme is accomplished fact.

In this budget, under Railway construction, I see no reference to the proposed line from Chikjajur to Chitaldrug. I think the scheme has made a fair headway, the survey is completed and that Government will take further action to start construction in the near future.

Mr. P. Raghavendra Rao.—SIR,—Some remarks have been made by the non-official members about facilities given to the public in the matter of shops and I have very strongly recommended the privilege of local option. There is absolutely no objection to this. I have, however, to invite your attention to the experience in British territories. Some special reports were called for from some of the Provincial Officers by the Excise Commissioners of certain Provinces, and after very full enquiry, they found that in most of them, instances were not wanting where the people themselves gave up the privilege! But, as Mr. Puttanna Chetty has said, it might be tried in Bangalore and Mysore Cities. There is no objection to it at all.

As regards the location of shops and the number of shops, there is no doubt that the reduction in the number of shops is not going on at a particularly fast rate, that is at the rate the non-official members would like it to be. But as we have to be guided by the experience of other Provinces. In Bombay we found that when they cut down the shops very suddenly, the result was that a number of cases of illicit distillation came up. So, we cannot push it to a very

great extent. We cannot therefore cut down suddenly the number of shops. It is a thing that requires to be worked out carefully and gradually. While about it, I may tell the non-official members that there was no complaint against the department when shops were opened! But when the shops were closed, there were a large number of complaints, and applications poured in for opening new ones. As confirmed by Mr. Puttanna Chetty last year, there was a very well-paying shop in Bangalore City and the Municipality did not want it. So, I closed it. Although the right of local option has not been formally and officially given, yet I may tell the members that, whenever applications for opening shops come in, the Municipalities and the Magistracy are invariably consulted, and, unless they recommend, new shops are not opened. About the location of shops, I may say that the shops continue to be in the localities where they have existed for years. Where a locality is objected to, the shops are at once removed.

In fact, I may tell the members that during the current year, there were more applications than usual from foreign liquor merchants for opening shops in Bangalore City. We wanted only two and we had four applications and there was a very strong representation that all the four shops would pay. But I allowed only two. So, there is no encouragement given for opening new shops.

As regards the number of hours allotted for the sale of liquor, I do not think that we have exceeded the hours prescribed in the British territories. If it is found that early closure is necessary, there is absolutely no difficulty in doing so.

Something has been said about the proportion the expenditure on establishments bears to the revenue. This is a ticklish question, because it is a variable figure. In 1904-05 the excise revenue was 38 lakhs, and the expenditure on establishments Rs. 3,32,000. After twelve years, we now find that the revenue is 55 lakhs and the expenditure has only risen from 3,32,000 to 3,50,000. That is not much. The percentage in 1904-05 was 9 and now it is only 6. In the Madras Presidency, whose system we are following here, the percentage of expenditure on establishments to the revenue is 7.672. The only province in British India in which the percentage is below Mysore is the Punjab. Why it is so, I cannot say. In Bombay it is absolutely the same as in Mysore. Taking the whole of British India together, it is the same as in Mysore, namely 6 per cent. The expenditure does not increase at the same rate as the revenue. Hence my say that it is a variable figure and rather misleading for purposes of comparison.

Something has been said about the loss that arrack and other contractors are put to on account of unhealthy competition. There is no doubt that the system of sale by auction is open to criticism. But which is the alternative to it? Is it the fixed fee system? My own impression is that the auction system is preferable to the fixed fee system. But the matter is one of opinion based on various considerations, and I mean to send up certain recommendations to Government in this matter at an early date. As a matter of fact, what really happens is this: There are some people who make it a profession to bid at these auction sales. They may suffer loss, but they go again to the same extent as before. I should like to know why they come up like this. But whenever they suffer loss, they make representations for remissions. So far, I have had absolutely no complaints. They pay their khist regularly month after month. That shows that they do not suffer loss. There were a few cases of arrears, and particularly bad ones, from Bangalore, Kolar Gold Fields and Mysore. These licensees do not however carry on one trade only. They have got other strings to their bow. They do want to be licensees of liquor shops at any cost. I do not really know what makes them do it. But there is the fact, they do it.

I do not think there are many more points calling for any comment. Something has been said about the pay and prospects of Sub-Registrars. That is a matter which is now engaging the consideration of Government.

A suggestion has been made about stamps that as people do not generally know the value of the stamps that they have to affix the Schedule of rates may be printed in Kannada and distributed for the benefit of the mofussil people. Mr. Balasundaram Iyer has made a suggestion to me to the effect that the schedule may be printed and a copy stuck up at every village chavadi. I think this may be done.

19TH JULY 1916.

Rao Bhadur Mr. M. Shama Rao.—SIR,—I beg to compliment the non-official members of this Council on the very keen interest shown by them in the progress of Education and the informing comments made by them on the several branches of the budget under the head of Education. It is not only an index to their mental culture but also is a sign that the larger interests of the country and the larger communal welfare are engaging their attention. There have, however, been some criticisms also, which I wish to answer as clearly and as fully as I can do.

The first subject is the question of lapses. In the case of lapses, after a whole night's deliberation, I do not know with whom to sympathize most—whether with the Financial Department which has had to resort to the rule of averages, or with Mr. Krishna Murti Rao and two or three others with him, who have, I find, been veritably tilting at mere wind-mills.

In the Financial Secretary's Memorandum, para 22, the lapses are given as amounting to Rs. 3,71,000. I find, however, on totalling up the figures, that the amount is Rs. 10,000 more than the printed figure. Of these, two lakhs have been shown as savings and the remaining Rs. 1,81,000 ought to be accounted for. This is how the figures stand. The first item is under Inspectorate Rs. 38,000. The actual lapse, however, amounts to Rs. 31,500. The remaining Rs. 18,500 was spent and was made up of Rs. 11,000 reappropriated for other purposes and Rs. 7,500 spent for establishment and contingent charges in the last quarter of the year. The sanction of Government for the revision of the Inspectorate was received by me in September 1915 and the proposals made for fixing the headquarters of some of the Inspecting Officers and their appointments needed the sanction of Government. Hence the amount mentioned, about Rs. 38,000, necessarily lapsed.

Under Government Schools—General, the lapse shown is Rs. 1,41,000. Out of this amount, however, an expenditure of Rs. 33,200 was actually incurred before the close of the year. Of the balance of about Rs. 1,07,800, Rs. 6,000 under High Schools was saved to Government due to variations in pay, less leave allowances, reduction of personal allowances, transfers of School Final Charges to the head Miscellaneous, etc. The sum of Rs. 1,200 provided for replacing male by female teachers was not utilized as the need did not arise. Under Practical Instruction and Adult Education sums of Rs. 15,000 and Rs. 10,000 respectively remained unutilized, because the classes were started in different parts of the year and the expenditure could not therefore be uniform. Under Compulsory Education, Rs. 26,000 remained unutilized. This sum, however, includes a sum of Rs. 7,500 decided to be spent in the Mysore City which, however, could not be utilized before the close of the year, the number of additional schools required for the City being settled only recently after consultation with the Municipal Council which necessarily took time. The next item is the net lapse of Rs. 45,000 out of Rs. 60,000 provided for the opening of 300 new schools. Proposals for new schools and improvements and for additional hands and accommodation for which no money had been provided in the Budget and which was proposed to be met by reappropriation from this source was submitted to Government in February last. But Government only sanctioned, about the middle of May following, the opening of eighty-nine new schools which had been proposed, but withheld sanction to the proposal for additional hands house rent, etc. Thus on the whole a lapse of about Rs. 1,04,000 occurred under this head.

The next lapse relates to an item of Rs. 56,000 under Government Schools—Special. Of this sum Rs. 49,416 represents the provision made for new Industrial Schools which could not be opened during the past official year, as the Industrial School teachers under training in the Mechanical Engineering School were required to continue under training till August next. The Chitaldrug Normal School for which a provision of Rs. 12,500 was made could only be opened in June last in the beginning of the school year and hence the full provision made could not be utilized. Deducting reappropriations there was a lapse of Rs. 56,000. Under Book Department the lapse is shown as Rs. 13,400. Of this sum Rs. 3,000 specially sanctioned as remuneration for writing books was unnecessary as other provision was available and hence was not utilized. The balance represents the amount due for bills from book-sellers and printing firms which were not received before the 30th

June last. Under Grants-in-aid a lapse of Rs. 97,000 has been shown. Of this sum about Rs. 65,000 is a portion of the grant transferred to the Public Works Department for the construction of Village School buildings, details of the expenditure of which have not yet been received, and about Rs. 44,000 represents the savings due to variation of grants from Rs. 5 to Rs. 7 given to Rural Primary Schools, and to the schools having been started in different parts of the year. About Rs. 12,000 may be taken as the lapse under other items, such as building grants, etc. There is, however, an excess expenditure of Rs. 34,000 under "Salary and Rent" so that the amount of net lapse is about Rs. 87,000. Under scholarships the main lapses were under Foreign, Normal and Actuarial scholarships amounting to about Rs. 50,000.

The next subject is that relating to Mahomedan Education about which my friend Mr. Nawab Gulam Ahmad Kalani had many remarks to make. I find that under Mahomedan pupils under instruction, the number of boys is 20,000 and girls 6,000, total 26,000. Taking the percentages, 90 per cent of boys of school-going age and 32 per cent of the girls are under instruction. Last year, 1915-16, we started 96 Hindustani schools for boys and girls. Year before last 60 schools were started. Thus for the last two years not less than 150 schools have been started. Here are the figures for the past official year.

Number of Hindustani Schools opened in 1915-16.

1. Government Taluk Hindustani Girls' Schools	...	...	4
2. Government Village Elementary Hindustani Girls' Schools	...	...	5
3. Aided Village Elementary Hindustani Boys' Schools	...	...	65
4. Do do Girls' Schools	...	...	10
5. Adult Schools	...	...	5
6. Village Indigenous Schools	...	...	7
Total Schools			96

With regard to the percentage of pupils under instruction, the figures are:—

Year	Percentage of Mahomedan boys under instruction to total number of Mahomedan males of school-age	Percentage of Mahomedan girls under instruction to total number of Mahomedan females of school-age
1913-14	80.4	31.2
1914-15	89.4	32.7

I may also say that there are only 10 per cent of the boys left to be brought under instruction and of the girls, 64 per cent are yet to attend school.

With regard to the several stages of instruction,—there were in—

Number of Mahomedan pupils.

Colleges	...	24
High Schools for boys	...	251
Anglo-Vernacular Schools for boys	...	2,284
Vernacular Middle Schools for boys	...	4,027
Anglo-Vernacular Schools for girls	...	3
Vernacular Middle Schools for girls	...	1,863
Primary Schools for boys	...	14,213
Do for girls	...	3,190
Training Schools for masters	...	30
Industrial Schools for boys	...	153
Commercial Schools	...	2
Deaf, Dumb and Blind Schools	...	2
Sanskrit Schools	...	4
Engineering Schools	...	6
Agricultural Schools	...	2
Private Institutions	...	1,407
Total		27,390

Taking the colleges and secondary schools, I may say that in Mysore about 11 pupils for every 1,000 Mahomedan pupils under instruction were in the College and High School Departments, while in British India, the number was 11 for every 2,300 pupils. Again in Mysore a little less than a third of the total number of pupils were in the Secondary stage, while in British India it was about one-sixth.

With regard to the buildings, from 1913 to 1916 altogether 16 buildings have been erected at a cost of Rs. 23,500; and grants have been given for three buildings. 16 more buildings are included in the programme of the current year. In the State Fund programme, provision is made for 158 buildings for five years commencing from 1913-14, and of these no less than 60 buildings are entered for Hindustani Schools. The first school to be erected will be the Model Hindustani School in Bangalore for which a site has not yet been fixed.

With regard to the training of masters, Mr. Kalami was pleased to remark that the training schools for Mahomedans in Shimoga and Kolar were abolished and the training is now concentrated in Mysore which, he said, was a great hardship to the Mahomedan teachers. As a matter of fact, the school at Shimoga had about ten teachers and there was an equal number in the Kolar School. Instead of maintaining a school at each of these places with such a small number of students it was thought better to concentrate the teaching at Mysore. There was no sort of inconvenience to any body and I can assure the members that the pupils themselves are thankful for the change.

With regard to the scale of pay of the masters, here is our scale:—

Anglo-Hindustani Schools.—Two on Rs. 50—4—70, one on Rs. 50, one on Rs. 40, three on Rs. 30, nine on Rs. 20—1—25, twelve on Rs. 15—1—20, twelve on Rs. 12—1—15 and fourteen on Rs. 10.

Taluk Hindustani Boys' School.—Two on Rs. 40, five on Rs. 30, eight on Rs. 25, thirty-one on Rs. 20, forty-five on Rs. 15, fifty on Rs. 12 and sixty-six on Rs. 10.

Village Elementary Boys' Schools—(Kannada and Hindustani).—Fifty on Rs. 25, fifty on Rs. 20, five-hundred on Rs. 15, six-hundred on Rs. 12, one-thousand on Rs. 10.

Village Elementary Girls' Schools—(Kannada and Hindustani).—Ten on Rs. 25, twenty on Rs. 20, thirty on Rs. 15, fifty on Rs. 12 and sixty-nine on Rs. 10.

In Madras, even for a Model School, I find the following scale:—

	Rs.
Head Master	50
1st Assistant	40
2nd do	30
3rd do	25

This shows that we are not worse but, on the other hand, are much better.

Coming then to the question of scholarships, I may say that the Mahomedans enjoy a special privilege in as much as there is a regular chain of scholarships for them, from the lowest to the highest classes. Here is the list of scholarships, held by Mahomedan pupils.—

	Rs.
	per annum
12 Gumbaz scholarships for Mahomedan girls	360
37 Mahomedan scholarships tenable in Colleges and High Schools	1,680
7 Aligarh scholarships	2,100
1 Special Aligarh scholarship	300
1 Philosophy scholarship	240
198 Ordinary scholarships for Mahomedan girls	1,836
21 Vernacular scholarships	1,260
24 Backward class scholarships	576
Total ... 301 Scholarships	8,352

It may now be seen from the figures that I have given that in the matter of scholarships it cannot be said that the Mahomedans are at any disadvantage. Taking

the number of pupils under instruction and the amount spent on them in the shape of scholarships, it works out at about five annas per head. In these circumstances, it cannot be said that the Government have been showing any sort of niggardliness in regard to Mahomedan education. If the Mahomedans do not take advantage of higher education it is not because that there is no encouragement, but because they have no desire to do so. Of course, there are people who take advantage, but the number is small.

The only remaining point for consideration is—Why do they not take service in the Education Department? This is a question for them to answer. We are giving the same rates of pay to the Mahomedan teachers as we are giving to the Hindus. The Department cannot be held responsible for any shortcomings if the Mahomedan community will not come to the help of the department and persuade pupils to take the benefits of higher education and also to take up service here.

The Dewan.—What they say is that they must be paid according to their market value from their own stand point.

Rao Bahadur Mr. Shama Rao.—SIR,—We are doing all that we can do and as I said before, the pay that we offer does not compare unfavourably with that in the Madras Presidency.

Then, I come to the remarks made by some of the members on Compulsory Education. I may say with regard to Compulsory Education that as far as I have been able to satisfy myself by personal inspection, the scheme has been accepted by the people with very great pleasure. In the first year, in 1914-15, fifteen centres were notified and as per census taken there were 15,500 pupils between the ages of 7 and 11 required to attend one school or other, of whom about 10,000 were actually under instruction. Before the end of the year about 4,200 more pupils joined the schools. Twenty-five more schools had to be opened in order to give facilities for the admission of these boys. In 1915-16, twelve more centres were notified. In some places schools have been started but I am not able to quote precise figures. This year, we have notified 40 more places and I am quite certain they will be brought under the Scheme of Compulsory Education before the end of the year and that more schools will be started and almost all the children brought under instruction.

The next question is about the Primary Aided Schools. Mr. Krishna Murti was very vehement in condemning some of these schools. In the first year I had some misgivings whether these schools would be a success. Last year, I visited several of these schools in various parts and found them working satisfactorily. Several of the revenue officers are of opinion that these aided Primary Schools should be given every encouragement. Till now, we have started about 2,000 of these aided Primary Schools and the Government grant is Rs. 5, Rs. 6, or Rs. 7 according to circumstances. The villagers may be taken on the whole to be contributing as their share about a lakh of rupees towards the maintenance of these institutions. Unless all this money was forthcoming in the shape of taxes, it could not have been possible to open these schools. Even now there is very great demand for these schools. That shows we are right in proceeding further in establishing more schools. At the same time, one-third of the number of Primary Schools are to be maintained as Government schools. For this reason, we want more model schools, some schools which will serve as an example to the aided Primary Schools. The masters of these Primary Schools who are in different villages must be assured of some promotion. With the hope of being drafted to Government service they take up employment in these schools and work with zeal and alacrity. I cannot under any circumstances agree that these schools should be condemned outright as one or two members have been pleased to do. It is true that some of these schools are not equipped according to our own standards. There is no need to equip them because they are all teaching the alphabet and very little above that. It is only after two years that the need for furniture and other articles will be felt and we are prepared to meet their demands then.

The object of the adult schools have not been properly understood by some members. The adult schools are meant to keep up literacy among those who have left school and also to bring those who have never attended a school under instruction. These are the two objects. In the continuation classes, those that have already some

education attend with the purpose of keeping up their literacy; and in the alphabet class those, who have never entered the portals of the schools, before attend after their work is over. These latter are in the end drafted to the continuation classes after they have received sufficient instruction.

As regards the Book Depot, Mr. Krishna Murti Rao has made very caustic remarks. I asked him several times to visit the Central Book Depot himself and see what kind of work is done there. He has not been pleased to do so. I ask him again in this Council to do so. The cost of the establishment of the Book Depot amounted to a little over Rs. 5,000 last year and almost the whole of this amount was recovered in the shape of discount and commission on books sold.

The Depot in no way competes with private trade; it does not purchase English books except to a very small extent for supply of moffussil schools. Most of the books supplied in the Depot consists of departmental publications. A small commission of $6\frac{1}{2}$ per cent is allowed to the taluk depots. By this means the taluk depot keeper earns about Rs. 20 per annum on an average. For this small remuneration he not only sells books but also helps the department in the distribution of stationery and other things with no cost to the department. The village depots make their own arrangements to carry the books. We have absolutely no responsibilities about their expenses. Publications of every department are sent to the depots and sold there. What the Superintendents of Government Printing do in Madras and Calcutta, our Curator does here. If the depot is abolished it will certainly not pay any private persons to engage himself in that capacity for the simple reason that the department does not make any profit out of the depot and no private man will take up the business without profit. With regard to Government publications, we levy only $12\frac{1}{2}$ per cent over the cost price to cover the expenses. Beyond that we get nothing in the shape of profit. With these facts before them, it is open to any of the members of this Council to go to the Depot and see for themselves whether these observations are not as stated.

Mr. Venkatakrishnaiya made some remarks regarding the Industrial Schools. He wanted the Engineering School at Mysore to be raised to the standard of a College, and besides the Sub-Overseers Higher students also to be trained there. The question is under the consideration of Government and when the matter will be decided, I cannot definitely say. When the University develops probably the Engineering School might be attached to the University as one of the affiliated institutions. Then, there are the other schools. Last year the Government sanctioned six Industrial Schools. These schools have not yet been started, but they will be started before the end of August. Arrangements are being made rapidly.

With regards to the Hostels, Mr. B. Narasinga Rao remarked that the Mysore High School boys had to walk a long distance to have their food in the College Hostel since their own hostel has been taken away. This is true and I have received proposals in the matter. When the University is started and the High School separated, it will be possible to have a separate hostel for the High School boys. There is, however, another question whether we cannot distribute the boys among the hostels attached to the Engineering and Normal Schools. If more boys come and ask for separate accommodation, due consideration will be paid to the question of a separate hostel.

With regard to the Inspector-General's Office, various remarks have been made. It was said that the Inspector-General had 4 Assistants while the Revenue Commissioner had only two. It is true that there was only one Assistant formerly and it is also true that there are three more at present. But one of them cannot be regarded as quite an Assistant. He is a ministerial officer more or less completely in charge of compulsory education. Immediately a place is notified, this officer has to go to the spot, arrange for taking a census under the supervision of the revenue officers, arrange for the number of schools required, see how many pupils the existing schools can accommodate and satisfy himself on various other points. The ordinary inspecting officers are not able to attend to these matters because they have their own duties to perform. It is therefore quite necessary that a separate officer should be on special duty in this connection. Then there is the Technical Assistant who has been appointed only very recently. One marked feature of the educational policy is that every effort is being made to develop technical and professional education. It was felt that the Industrial Schools which exist at

present were under the guidance of laymen, were examined by laymen and could not therefore fulfil the purpose for which they were intended. A Special Assistant was, therefore, necessary in this respect and one has been recently appointed for the time being and he will continue till all the schools are placed on a proper footing and till people are able to start their own schools under trained and capable teachers. It is the teachers that are required to be trained for proper direction.

There then remains only one more Assistant, whether he is called Deputy Inspector-General or Special Assistant. It may be conceded that this appointment is absolutely necessary owing to the enormous amount of work that is growing and that has grown in recent years. This has thrown a very large amount of work on me. It is impossible for any officer not to do some routine work and I am obliged to do it. Here are a number of officers holding responsible appointments and I am sure they will bear me out when I say that no officer can escape a certain quantity of routine work. In any case relief is necessary and an additional Assistant to share the work of organization and supervision with the Inspector-General is needed. Then I ask, where is the superfluity of Assistants in my office.

I now come to the various complaints about the non-receipt of grant-in-aid bills. Wherever there is any complaint regarding the non-receipt of any amount, it is found on enquiry that the parties themselves are mostly at fault. Last year and year before last grants were sanctioned to the schools and it took some time before payment could be made. But still retrospective effect was given to the order of payment. According to the Comptroller's orders, the previous pay bills had to be obtained and audited and all this meant time. But those who got an increase were necessarily impatient and they complained. In my visits to the schools it is true that I have also received complaints. But the fact was that the complaint was, that they did not receive, not their ordinary pay, but the increase of pay. These complaints have almost vanished now, as almost all their supplemental bills have been passed.

With regard to the disbursement of grants it is true that there was some little trouble about it. The grant-in-aid bills were being countersigned by the Assistants in my office. When we multiplied these schools a large number of bills began to flow in, so much so, that they amounted to about 3,000 bills. A new procedure was necessary and the matter had to be discussed, with the revenue authorities, the Comptroller, and other officers, and in the end, the task of countersigning was transferred to the Inspecting officers themselves. Thus the trouble has now vanished and I do not think there would be any more complaint. With regard to these complaints I have to make one remark. The complaints will never cease. I find that even now complaints come from persons thrown out of employment years ago, addressed to the Members of Government, to the Inspector-General and others. These people make it a point to renew their petitions periodically. These petitions give an impression that there is something very wrong somewhere. As far as I can see there is nothing wrong anywhere. I can only compare them to the Adullamites once referred to by John Bright. It is only such people that are complaining. The facts are there and they may be examined at any time.

With regard to the Primary Schools, we undertook about two or three years ago to raise the percentage of boys under instruction to 46 per cent. I am glad to say that this year it has reached not only that, but 1 or 2 per cent more. During the last three years the number of schools has doubled. This year there are 8,00,000 pupils of school-going age. Of these roughly 4,00,000 are boys and the rest girls. No less than 2½ lakhs of boys may be taken as having been brought under instruction. We have only 1½ lakhs yet to be brought under instruction. About girls, there is some disproportion. Last year the number was 26,000 and this year it may be a little more. We are also opening more girls' schools.

I have now covered all the subjects mentioned. I have only one matter on which I wish to say a few words. It refers to a delicate subject on which I naturally do not like to speak, but lest my attitude should be misunderstood, I am obliged to say something.

Mr. H. Narasinga Rao referred to me yesterday as making an open pronouncement that I am preferring non-Brahmins to Brahmins. I may at once tell

him that my idiosyncracies cannot have any influence with Government in making appointments. However, in this particular case, there are two views to be taken, the view of a practical administrator and the view of a Statesman. So far as the view of a practical administrator is concerned, he has to find some one for the place to meet the needs of the hour. Any one that offers himself, provided he has the requisite qualifications has to be appointed. Although, I did not say so, when two people come forward, one a Brahmin and the other a non-Brahmin, both possessing the same qualifications which are sufficient to enable them to do the work of the office for which they are applicants, when I have no particular objection, I stretch a point and appoint the non-Brahmin. Every community is entitled to a representation in the public service and as such it is the duty of every Government officer to encourage them according to their capacities, by providing them places. But it does not mean that they are to be preferred to the exclusion of others more competent. There is yet a higher view of the matter. To me it is indifferent as long as each community makes an effort to raise itself—whether it is the Brahmin or non-Brahmin. Brahmins have been in the fore-front because they have been brought under compulsory education long long ago. It is that that has given them an advantage. If other communities also do the same thing, by all means they will also be welcomed. At the same time, it should not be anybody's aim to create jealousy and bring about bad blood anywhere. It is impossible to keep down any particular class of people who may be in the fore-front now. I can only appeal to Indian History. During the time of Allauddin Khilji, that Monarch wanted to introduce the Mahomedans to every office which till then were filled by Hindus. With this object he introduced Persian as the State language. The result was that every appointment was filled by a Mahomedan for the time being. But in a few years, the Hindus also learnt Persian and nay, began to teach Persian to the Mahomedans themselves. Coming nearer home, Tippu Sultan substituted a Mahomedan for every Hindu in the important offices of the State. Naturally there were no places for Hindus. But every Mahomedan officer employed a Hindu as his deputy, so that on the overthrow of the Sultan's rule; Dr. Buchanan reports that, there were Brahmins continuing in important places, the Mahomedans gradually withdrawing therefrom. It has been their profession for a long time past. Just as Lingayets trade, the Brahmins hold appointments. For my part, I would encourage all classes to come forward according to their capacity, but why should there be unnecessary differences and jealousies? I would draw a curtain over the whole thing and encourage every effort on the part of other communities to come forward by dint of industry.

There is only one more point I wish to refer to before closing. Mr. Seetharamaiya said that there must be something wrong because the Education machinery was not moving as well as it ought to, either the country was not prepared, or the materials were not available or the department was slack. I hope the figures I have quoted will show that the department has not been slack and it is making every effort. Government is endeavouring to do everything to raise literacy and to help people to earn a living by various honourable professions. I cannot say that the country is not prepared. The fact that about 1,20,000 pupils have joined school during the past three years shows that the country appreciates the intentions of the Government. We are offering the necessary inducements to get the proper kind of teachers for our village schools. This year not less than 800 masters have applied for the Lower Secondary Examination. By passing this examination they get more grants-in-aid. Thus the Council will see that every effort is being made by the people to supply the demand and there is no doubt that very soon the necessary supply will be forthcoming.

With these remarks I resume my seat. I may be permitted once more to thank the members for the kindly tone in which they have offered their comments and I only hope that they will actively co-operate with the work of the department.

Dewan Bahadur Mr. C. Srikantesvara Aiyar.—SIR,—I have only one observation to make. Mr. Narasimhaiya said that there was something wrong in the Taluk Police administration, that the working is not smooth because the Inspector thinks that he is above the Amildar and does not respect him, etc. As our Police organisation now stands, under the Mysore Police Regulation, the Amildar is the *de facto*

head of the Taluk Police; all correspondence and diaries, etc., are addressed to and pass through him, as "Head of the Taluk Police," which gives him an opportunity to scrutinize into everything pertaining to the Police of the Taluk. He has also to investigate the important heinous cases. Practically, therefore, the Inspector is the Amildar's assistant, in the Police administration of the Taluk, and the Amildar controls him. If the Inspector misbehaves towards the Amildar, he has only to pull him up or report him to the higher authorities, for dealing with him suitably. So, there is nothing to be afraid of, in the Police administration of the Taluk, as now conducted. If the member would kindly give me any individual instances of differences or errors, as are likely, due to personal equations, I shall only be too glad to look into them.

Rajamantrapravina Dewan Bahadur Mr. J. S. Chakravarti.—SIR,—In rising to offer a few observations and explanations in respect of the points raised by my non-official colleagues in this Council in the course of the budget debate I must in the first place heartily thank them for having to some extent at least adopted the suggestion contained in paragraph 17 of my speech introducing the budget. The convenience of having a working rule of the kind referred to therein and the saving of time and energy that may be expected from it are indeed great and self-evident. The necessity of such a rule has been recognised everywhere. I may perhaps be permitted to mention that after reading my speech the Hon'ble Sir William Meyer, Finance Member of the Viceregal Council, whose interest in the work of his departmental children in whatever field they may be working is well-known, kindly wrote to me to say that the suggestion in question was quite a good one and might well be adopted. I of course understand that the standpoints from which the non-official members view the budget may not in some cases be quite identical with those from which the Government view it and some of them may consider it necessary in the course of their speeches to make a running commentary, mostly of an interrogative nature, in respect of all the budget heads as my esteemed friends Messrs. B. Narasinga Rao and Venkatakrishnayya have done on the present occasion. But the sympathetic way in which most of the members—prominent among whom are Messrs. Kalami, Ramaswamy Chetti, Seetharamiah and Narasimhayya—have received the suggestion and the practical way in which it has been given effect to by them on the very first occasion raises in me the hope that within a short time we shall attain the object in view and the repetitions and the reiterations of the old system will become a thing of the past.

The only member who has taken any sort of exception to the suggestion made by me is Mr. B. Narasinga Rao whose remarks if I understand him aright even bordered on resentment. He hinted that it was not for the Financial Secretary to make any suggestions on the manner in which non-official members should conduct the budget debate. I regret, Sir, that he has not taken the suggestion in the spirit in which it was offered and that his remarks are unconciliatory and unjust. I have no presumption of either the right or the ability to give any instruction in the matter to my honourable non-official colleagues but if suggestions made according to one's light and notions of propriety are to be resented in this way does it not lay the axe at the very root of the principles underlying the formation of representative bodies and Councils consisting of officials and non-officials for the purpose of discussing matters of public interest. If Mr. B. Narasinga Rao can say that it is not for me or for any other official member to make suggestions about the way in which the budget debate should be conducted, cannot the official members of this Council and those who represent Government if they stooped to the same spirit also say that it is not for the non-official members to instruct them as to how departments should be managed and the administration carried on. No, Sir, that is not the spirit in which officials and non-officials should co-operate for the public weal and I am glad to see that Mr. B. Narasinga Rao is in the minority of one in expressing any dislike or resentment at my suggestion. I think it was Mr. Narasinga Rao who yesterday said that a non-official member had no right to speak on behalf of other non-official members in a matter under discussion without ascertaining their views before hand and on this question Mr. B. Narasinga Rao has laid himself open to his own criticism. I have every hope that on fuller and maturer consideration Mr. B. Narasinga Rao will fall into the line and adopt the suggestion which has already received the approbation and practical support of almost all other non-official members.

Change in the Method of Reply.

This salutary change which has taken place in the manner of budget debate has necessarily resulted in a corresponding alteration in the method of my reply. Under the former system I used to take down the important points dealt with by each member as he spoke and give my explanation in respect of them in the order in which they were noted down. The plan which we have now adopted has enabled me to convert the personal ledger, if I may call it, into an impersonal ledger account. On the present occasion I had a list of budget heads and other important financial points before me and I made a note against each head of any remarks that were made by the members in respect of it. This has automatically given me an idea of the points which have been most favoured by members with their criticism. Remarks of a general character on the financial situation have of course been made by almost all members but next to that the subject of Education and of Public Works expenditure seem to have been the most favourite topic. I shall now try to explain briefly the points raised as far as possible on an occasion like this and as far as the points have not been dealt with by the members who have spoken before me.

General Financial Situation.

Taking up first the general financial situation Mr. Venkatakrishnayya regrets the smallness of the budget surplus even after taking into account the handsome increase under the Cauvery Power Scheme and the surplus revenues of the Civil and Military Station. He strongly advocates savings so as to avoid borrowing in bad times. Of course it must be admitted that the petty surplus of 28,000 is low, in fact it is nominal; but as my honourable friend Mr. Gulam Ahmad Kalami has observed it is fortunate that we have been able to balance the budget in what must be regarded as a period of stress and anxiety. As regards savings, hoarding for the sake of hoarding is no part of our policy; but if the budget is carefully scrutinised it will be found that all items of expenditure are not expenditure in the sense that the money is used up or lost. There is a provision amounting to two lakhs for the famine revenue and there is a provision of one and one-third lakhs for the State loan sinking fund. Three lakhs have been put by under Depreciation fund, Cauvery Power Scheme. Then under Cauvery Power Scheme and Public Works and Railways there is a certain amount of capital expenditure which has been charged to revenue. In one sense these may be regarded as savings and investments, though it must be admitted that they are of the nature of compulsory savings and investments which are absolutely necessary for the safety and soundness of the administration. They cannot be regarded as such as can be put off or met from borrowed funds. This explanation will perhaps make it clear to Mr. Venkatakrishnayya and others who think like him that the whole of our revenues including the revenue from the mines is not being used up on ordinary items of administration and development.

Mr. B. Narasinga Rao has charged us with under-estimating revenue and over-estimating expenditure. I plead guilty to his charge within the limits of reasonable caution and I think if the estimates of various Provinces and States are studied I shall be found to be in very good company. Of course the ideal is to estimate the correct revenue and the exact expenditure. But estimates are at their best estimates. There is some risk of err in the most favourable circumstances and I put it to any one as to whether it is better to err on the right side or on the wrong side. After all as I have shown, the divergence in the estimates for 1915-16 amounts to 3.9 per cent in the case of revenue and 4.6 per cent in the case of expenditure. This especially when the State is in a state of rapid development in many directions and when the markets are to some extent disturbed cannot be regarded as excessive.

Mr. Narasimhayya has referred with some misgivings to the fact that in the Government Order creating a separate appointment of Financial Secretary that officer has been asked to see particularly to proposals regarding the development of revenue. He has a foreboding that this means that the income-tax and the education cess are near at hand. I think I can allay such apprehension at once. Revenue to my mind is not synonymous with taxation. Unless absolutely necessary

and all other means of raising revenue are exhausted, I will not advise, and I hope the Government of His Highness the Maharaja will not sanction the raising of revenue by imposing new burdens on the people. It is for this reason that though the income-tax proposal has passed both through the Economic Conference and through the Representative Assembly the Government of His Highness have not imposed the tax. It is also because of this that though proposals regarding the educational cess has been pressed repeatedly on Government they are still in the stage of academic investigation. The Mysore State possesses valuable State domains in its forests, minerals, natural power sources and so forth which can be developed for the purposes of enhancing the revenue and it is to the development of these State domains that the Government Order that I have referred to particularly refers in laying down the functions of the Financial Secretary. I may also mention that not having clearly distinguished tax revenue from non-tax revenue Mr. Narasimhayya has landed himself in some wrong figures relating to incidence of taxation and consequent erroneous conclusions.

Mr. Karnick Krishnamurthi has harped as usual on departmental lapses but I am very glad that he has abandoned his accustomed platform of the payment of excessive travelling allowance to Government officers. Occasional abuse of travelling allowance rules may exist and information regarding them if they come to the notice of any one will certainly be welcome to Government so that the officers concerned may be suitably dealt with. It is also possible that in the case of some officers the travelling allowance rates are capable of readjustment. But as the aggregate charges of travelling allowance under all heads—including that of non-officials and guests—come to about 8½ lakhs of rupees and amount only to three per cent or half anna in the rupee on our aggregate expenditure I think extravagance in the matter of travelling allowance is a subject of which we will hear no more in our general financial discussions.

I am glad that Mr. Seetharamiah appreciates the additional information that we have introduced as part III of the financial statement and that Mr. Gulam Ahmad Kalami recognises that Government have been giving facilities for budget discussion to the public in a greater and greater degree.

Mr. Basavaiya has criticised the large provision of 7,69 that is made for payment of interest on the permanent and temporary loans and for other obligations. He refers to the amount provided for payment of interest on temporary loans advanced on our securities as rather high. I am sorry that he has looked only on the payment side under the head "interest." If he had looked on the side of receipts he would have found that against the payment of 7,69 there is a receipt of 10,65 leaving a net excess of about 3 lakhs of interest earned over interest paid. He has also had difficulty in understanding why when the budget is a surplus one any temporary loans will have to be raised. Well, the explanation is that the budget is a surplus budget only in respect of ordinary items of receipt and expenditure and that outside the ordinary account there is a capital outlay of 40,82 to be incurred on large capital works. A part of this will be met from the accretions to cash under our debt head balance and the rest will be drawn from our invested surplus. As it is apprehended that the market will not be favourable for selling securities, advances will be taken on those securities from Banks. Now the gross interest that will be paid to the Banks will be shewn on the expenditure side of the budget but *per contra* the interest realized on the securities will come on the revenue side; the difference which we actually lose will only be one half or at most one per cent. This explains the rather large provision under interest which Mr. Basaviah complains of and as I have already explained it is counterbalanced by an entry of nearly equal amount on the receipt side. Of course considering the circumstances of the times a safe provision under interest has been retained to avoid the remotest chance of any of our projects being hung up for want of funds.

Mr. Garudachar has deprecated loans to outsiders. I think he must be referring to our investments in securities outside the State. It is true that we have got a certain amount of gilt-edged Indian securities. But the greater part of it represents a reserve which we must hold against liabilities such as savings banks, deposits, etc. This, I think, should always be in liquid securities of a Government other than the Government against whose liabilities the reserve is intended to be a protection. In our present circumstances they must be the highest class of gilt-edged

Indian securities. We had also accumulated a certain amount of surplus in past years for investment within the State in Railways and productive irrigation works. This money we mostly had in the form of fixed deposits in Presidency Banks and they have been withdrawn in due time and utilised for purposes for which they were intended. I need hardly say that if there had been any facility for investing such large sums within the State we would never have gone beyond. Even in the matter of employing our cash balance for affording facilities to trade it must be admitted that our opportunities within the State are limited. I am in touch with those who can utilise funds in that way and on some occasions they seem to have more money in their hands than they really want so that they are not in a position to make any use of Government balances on fair and advantageous terms.

Demand for a Budget Committee.

So much for general finance. As regards financial administration and management there has been one point which has been very strongly brought to the notice of Government. Mr. Garudachar, Mr. Venkatakrishnayya, Mr. Seetharamiah and Mr. Ramaswami Chetty have all asked for the appointment of a budget committee and Mr. Puttanna Chetty in endorsing this demand with the weight of his authority has added his own proposal of a mixed retrenchment committee of officials and non-officials. Personally I have no objection to any of these proposals in the abstract. But the one condition which I would insist on if any such concession is to be sanctioned is that the wheels of budget work should not be clogged and non-official associations should not act as a brake on the speed of budget work. The foundations of the budget estimates of the ensuing year are the revised estimates for the current year based on 9 months' actuals. Nine months actuals cannot be available before the expiry of 10½ months. Between this point of time and the end of the financial year the budget is to be prepared, checked, consolidated and printed with a full explanatory memorandum dealing with all differences and new points. If a budget committee is appointed I think it will have to sit from day to day for several days to come so as to finish the work in time. If non-official members are prepared to work under such conditions and if Government think fit to extend the concession I shall indeed welcome the proposed budget committee.

Land Revenue.

I shall now turn to the criticisms that have been offered in respect of the allotments made under the several budget heads and the first of these is land revenue. Mr. Garudachar has complained that the collection charges in respect of land revenue is higher in Mysore than in some other British Provinces, viz., the United Provinces and the Punjab. The percentage in the United Provinces is 14·5 and that in the Punjab 18·3 against 19 per cent in Mysore, the figures being those for 1914-15 in all cases. What the honourable member has said is quite true. But my complaint is that he has only stated a part of the truth and has unfairly tried to create the impression in the mind of members of this Council that our land revenue charges are unduly high. I have here in my hand a statement in which the corresponding percentages in the case of all the Provinces in British India have been carefully calculated and if Mr. Garudachar had frankly and fairly stated all these percentages I should have no reason to complain. When Mr. Garudachar said that our percentage of collection charges of land revenue is higher than that in the United Provinces and in the Punjab, he should also have stated in common fairness that our percentage is considerably lower than that in Bihar and Orissa, Central Provinces, Assam, North-Western Provinces, Madras and Bengal. If Mr. Garudachar had frankly stated all the figures both for and against us, it would have been all right. But by bringing forward the unfavourable figures and keeping back the favourable ones, I feel quite sure that he had all the figures before him and made a deliberate selection—he has, I am constrained to say, done an injustice in his criticism to our land revenue department. Mr. B. Narasinga Rao has complained that the charges of land revenue administration has risen by leaps and bounds during the last few years. Here I have got a statement which gives the actual figures for 6 years ending 1915-16. From this I find that the figure for 1910-11 was 19·48 lakhs while that for 1915-16 stands at 19·16. These figures are more eloquent than any

contradiction which I can give to Mr. Narasinga Rao's complaint. Mr. Chengiah Chetty has complained that the Amildar's duties have become multifarious and peshkars should be appointed to enable them to conduct their duties in a satisfactory manner. Mr. Ramaswamy Chetty has held the opposite view and has said that no such peshkars are needed. As the subject of readjusting the Amildar's duties have to be carefully scrutinised in connection with the proposal of relieving those officers of their magisterial function this subject need not be further discussed at this stage. Mr. Karnick Krishnamurthi has criticised the practice of allotting lump sum grants for the subordinate establishment and miscellaneous charges of the Survey Department. He has urged the necessity for a fixed scale in this department as in the case of other branches of the public service. There is some force in his contention but the practice of giving lump sum grants arose from the very nature of the Survey Department in which the establishment entertained varied largely from year to year according to the number of hands available and the nature and amount of work required to be done. I also happen to know something of the present method of work and scale of expenditure of the Survey and Settlement Department. Though the establishment entertained may have very great grievances in the matter of emoluments and fixity of employment, I am satisfied that there is no reason to complain of any extravagance or undue liberality in the matter of expenditure in this department. The matter of giving up the system of lump sum grants and substituting a fixed scale of establishment and other charges in this department is however under the consideration of Government. As regards the restoration of tanks in inam villages raised by this member the subject, I believe, has received the attention of Government and a satisfactory solution may be expected which will be fair to the raiyats, the inamdars and the Government alike.

Forest.

The high percentage of the cost of establishment in the Forest Department has come under criticism. In the first place I may point out that the percentage is not higher than, for example, in the neighbouring Presidency of Madras and in the second place I may state that the Forest Department is not primarily a revenue earning department and its work should not be judged by the percentage of the cost of establishment to the revenue. The department is in charge of one of the most valuable assets of the State, namely, its forests, and members of this Council may be aware that the proper function of this department is not to realise largest amount of revenue from the forests at the lowest possible cost but to exploit and manage the forests in such a way as to increase the permanent value of this asset of the State. Unless therefore any specific instances of waste or extravagance in the method of working can be pointed out we may assume that the cost of establishment, even if it is high, is so, owing to the efficient discharge of the primary duty of the department which consists in the conservation and improvement of forests. I think many will not be found to endorse the suggestion of Mr. Narasimhayya that in the maidan Districts the appointments of the District Forest Officers may be abolished and the care of the forests transferred to the District Excise Officer. If the greater part of these districts are bare of forests the question of afforestation has to be taken up in earnest. Mr. Seetharamiah has explained how the development of the sandal plantations in all parts of the State can lead to satisfactory results. But if District Forest Officers are to be dispensed with and the work tacked on to the Excise Officers who have their hands quite full it cannot be expected that much progress will be achieved in that direction. As regards substituting private agency for direct working of the forests by the State, the subject has received careful consideration. Almost the whole of the minor produce of the forests is collected by private contractors. It is only in respect of valuable timber that departmental work is resorted to even in respect of this the rules regarding contract system have been or are about to be revised and Government, I believe, will not be found unwilling to extend the working of the forest by private agency if reliable contractors come forward to work the forests on suitable terms. As regards the recent increase in forest establishment in the malnad regions it may be stated that this increase was sanctioned only after Government were satisfied that it was necessary in the interest of forest conservation and development and that the additional expenditure would be recovered many times over in the shape of

enhanced revenue in the immediate future. I think it will be generally admitted that no pains should be spared to work our forests to the best advantage, both as regards revenue and conservation and the increase that has been just sanctioned is intended to secure this object in a greater degree than it was possible to do in the past.

Excise.

The observations that have been made by the honourable members in the matter of excise have been so fully and lucidly explained by my friend the Excise Commissioner that it is hardly necessary for me to refer to any of the points of detailed criticism. I will only say one or two words in connection with the general excise policy of Government specially with reference to its financial aspect. It has been said a thousand times over but from some observations that fell from the non-official members it seems necessary to repeat the statement again, that Government do not want to increase their revenue by encouraging drunkenness amongst the population. Any criticism which is based on that assumption does not require serious consideration. The question is whether any of the means suggested by honourable members for reducing consumption of liquor can have the desired result if they are given effect to. For my part I think that either by legislation or by executive action you cannot change the habits of the people, you cannot make men who want drink give up drink. If you remove a shop from a distance of one mile to three miles from the residence of a man who must have drink, it will not mean in the majority of cases that you make the man a teetotaler but that the poor fellow will have to walk six miles a day instead of two miles to get the drink that he wants. Members of this Council are perhaps aware that from rice and from several other kinds of grain fairly strong alcoholic liquors can be prepared by very easy processes of fermentation in the back yards of village dwelling or in the recesses of the kitchen. Then there are other intoxicating substances such as opium, ganja, bhang, charas and the deadly cocaine, which being compact solid substance, can be very easily transported with secrecy and preserved for use. We must see that in our anxiety to reduce the use of intoxicating liquors we do not force people into even more pernicious habits. Can nothing then be done to reduce drunkenness amongst the population? Of course there is a way for attaining the object in view but it is not an easy road, not a simple short cut. It cannot be achieved by a stroke of the pen or by the vote of a Council. Legislation or executive action will not be effective specially in the beginning. It is education that is wanted—education not in the ordinary sense but explaining to the people and impressing on them in various ways the harmful and almost fatal effects of continuous indulgence in drink. I have not heard of any organization or wide-spread movement supported by the leaders of public opinion in the Mysore State on the lines of temperance movements which exist in other civilised countries. It may be a matter of my ignorance; it may be a matter for the honorable members of this Council to ponder over. I think it is one of the most sacred duties of every leader of public opinion in our urban and rural parts to attempt to the utmost of his power to organise and support temperance movements. Any fear that Government will be unsympathetic to such movements will not only be entirely unfounded but grossly unjust. Government will do every thing in their power to help such movements if they work on right lines and can secure reduction of consumption of intoxicating drinks and drugs in the State. It would be a fatally narrow financial policy which would seek to gain or retain a few lakhs of additional revenue by lowering the physical, mental, moral and economic level of the bulk of the population of the State. No, Sir, the Government of His Highness the Maharaja of Mysore have never followed such a narrow mistaken policy. I should therefore respectfully advise the leaders of public opinion, assembled here, to go a little beyond their practice of merely advising Government to adopt various executive measures in this matter. They must begin practical action and attack the difficult question at its very root. And when they begin they will find that Government will not be slow to render them all possible help that is in their power. I do not mean that executive and legislative action cannot be of use in any stage but simple executive action without any endeavour to reform, improve and educate the people cannot but end in failure.

Registration.

Passing over the head "Stamps" Mr. Seetharamiah's suggestion in respect of which, *viz.*, that a simple set of stamp rules should be printed in the form of a leaflet in vernacular and widely distributed, has been accepted by my friend the Stamp Commissioner on behalf of Government, I come to the head Registration. It has been said by several members, prominent amongst whom are Mr. B. Narasinga Rao and Mr. Sitharamiah, that at present there is some surplus left in the Registration Department after meeting all expenditure and that this should be utilised for improving the prospects of the staff of this department as the Registration Department is not intended to be a source of profit to the State. In this connection I may mention that the expenditure that is shown against any particular department in the budget does not represent the total expenditure if we have to calculate the profit or loss of the department on commercial principles. There are some special service departments of the State which exist merely for the sake of other departments, *e.g.*, the department of printing and stationery, the buildings branch of the Public Works Department, etc. Then there are other charges of considerable magnitude, *e.g.*, superannuation and pension charges, which appertain to all the departments of public service. Then there is the cost of superior control and general administration which has also to be similarly distributed. I mention these facts simply to show that the so-called profits from the Registration Department are not so large as may appear to honourable members at the first sight. In fact if all the indirect charges of the department to which I have referred just now be included it would be difficult to say whether the Registration Department can show any profit or what that profit would be. However I may inform the honourable members that the subject of pay and prospects of the Sub-Registrars is under the consideration of Government. It is generally felt that the pay of this class of officers is inadequate; but I am not sure whether it is generally known that in a very large number of cases these officers have not got full work and in several stations the work of full time Sub-Registrars does not occupy them more than two or three hours a day. The question of devising some means of utilizing the services of these officers to the full extent is under consideration of Government in connection with several schemes that are now before them and it is likely that a satisfactory solution of the somewhat difficult problem which will be acceptable from the administrative as well as from the financial standpoint will be arrived at before long.

General Administration.

The increasing charges year by year under the head "General Administration" has come under the notice of almost all the non-official members and the points dealt with in this connection range from broad and general question of financial and administrative policy to such petty items as the local allowance of Secretariat officers. Mr. Puttanna Chetty who no longer speaks under the restraints of an official member has already clearly explained to the Council how in a progressive administration the increase of expenditure under this head is inevitable. Sir, the work which is done with the help of the grants shewn under general administration is to a great extent the work of higher supervision and control of all the activities of the State. Such work from the very nature of it is invisible on the surface and intangible. But if to secure progress and development we increase expenditure under other departments and unduly stint money under the head "General Administration" we shall not be far removed in our policy from the individual in the famous fable who at the suggestion of rebellious organs of the body starved the central organ from which all strength and motive power should originate. As regards local allowances, I may say that they are sanctioned to officers belonging to a general cadre when they are posted to stations or appointments which require some such compensation. When an officer is transferred say from the charge of the Revenue Sub-Division in the mofussil to a Secretariat appointment in Bangalore he is not only transferred to an appointment the duties of which are more exacting and less agreeable but he has at the same time to meet all the charges incidental to living in a much costlier station. Without some local allowance the transfer to a Secretariat appointment may be regarded by officers in the light of unmerited punishment and it is idle to expect satisfactory work from an officer who

thinks that he has been unjustly made to suffer from a pecuniary point of view. These allowances are given after very careful consideration of Government both in the Administrative and Finance Departments and I can assure the members that the Finance Department does not fail in its duty of trying to get the amount of such allowance reduced in every case to the least possible limit consistent with the efficient discharge of public duties. As regard the new branch of Efficiency Audit my esteemed friend Mr. D. M. Narasinga Rao has given full information which should satisfy my non-official colleagues. Mr. Karnik Krishnamurthi after reiterating the usual allegation of top heavy establishments, unnecessary allowances, and so forth, has said that the English version of the Economic Journal may be discontinued. Now, Sir, the object of the Economic Journal is to discuss various questions relating to the educational, agricultural and industrial developments of the State. In its pages various schemes are discussed which are necessarily new to Mysore but which find their counterparts in various other parts of the civilised world. Is it not extremely desirable that our needs and requirements and the methods which we propose to adopt for meeting them should be made known to a wider circle beyond the Mysore State? Is it not desirable that people engaged in similar work in other provinces of British India and in other English speaking countries of the world should also know our plans and programmes so that they may express their opinion on them and give us their suggestions and criticisms? No, Sir, we do not want to be isolated and cut off from the rest of the world in the way suggested by the honorable member. On the other hand we want to throw ourselves into the current of agricultural and industrial progress of the world and establish as many channels of communication as possible between the Mysore State and other progressive and advanced countries. From this point of view I think it is absolutely necessary to maintain the English edition of the Economic Journal and I think that it would be a great mistake to abolish it as suggested. Mr. Basavayya has pleaded for the re-organization of the existing staff of gazetted and ministerial establishments in the various departments of the State and the reason he has given is that by such reorganization, retrenchments and savings may be effected. I hope I may be excused for saying that no one is more desirous of effecting savings or more keen on the subject of retrenchment than myself; but if Mr. Basavayya thinks that savings and retrenchments are to be effected by means of departmental re-organization I must tell him that he is under a hopeless delusion. I have during several years past had to deal with numerous cases relating to re-organization in several departments of the State; and I know very well the way to which re-organizations tend in these days of increasing activity and rising prices. Re-organizations of departments, I am afraid, will have to be sanctioned as they are found necessary; but I for one, have not the slightest hope of much retrenchments being effected as a result of such re-organizations.

Law and Justice.

Amongst the subjects relating to law and justice there is one which has been touched upon by almost all the non-official members of this Council a subject which has been discussed times without number here and elsewhere but about which there is yet to be found considerable difference of opinion between the theoretical reformer and the practical administrator under Indian circumstances and conditions. I refer of course to the subject commonly known as the separation of judicial and executive functions. As Government have already made a general declaration of policy in the matter and as I know that the subject is receiving the earnest attention of Government I need hardly say anything on the subject. Mr. H. Narasinga Rao has given us the outlines of the scheme of separation which he has formulated and I have seen and examined the details of some other schemes. If the scheme is to be introduced in this State I hope it will be in a form which on one hand will not involve the delegation of magisterial work to officers of lower pay and status and on the other will not involve considerable increase of expenditure. Several other points like the scale of pay now allowed to Public Prosecutors, the present methods of law reporting, etc., have been referred to by some members and these representations will no doubt receive due consideration in the administrative branches concerned.

On the subject of jails there has been some interesting criticism. Mr. Basavayya has pointed out that our jails are not able to meet the commercial requirements of the people and has expressed dissatisfaction. If the jails, he has asked, with their supply of convict labour cannot meet the commercial requirements of the people how can the private individuals and firms do so when they have to pay high wages for their labour? I confess I have not been able to follow this member in his arguments. He as well as other members of this Council must be aware that the jails do not primarily exist to meet what he calls the commercial requirements of the people. They exist for a specific purpose and industries are introduced into jails so that the convicts might be taught some useful occupation by means of which they may earn their livelihood in an honest way after their release and may not have any temptation or necessity to return to jail again. Far from it being desirable that our jails should compete with private enterprise in meeting the commercial requirements of the people, I think it is unjust and unfair to private industrial and commercial enterprise that such competition should be allowed to exist. At one time I had to examine the accounts of the manufacturing side in the jails of one of the largest provinces in British India: and in the course of my work I came to know that whenever jail industries competed with private enterprise strong representations were made to Government that such unfair competition should cease. I know that one large industrial concern in Bangalore itself joined in such a protest when some large central jails in the province of Behar and Orissa launched in a similar line of work on an extensive scale with the help of their convict labour. I do not deny that there is room for improvements in the matter of jail industries as there is in many other matters. But such improvements should be effected to secure the true and rational object of jail industries, and not with the view of earning profits by competing with the private enterprise in the fields of industrial activity in the State.

Police.

Several members have urged that a re-organization of the police force is necessary. The subject has received the consideration of my friend the Inspector-General of Police and his proposals are now before Government. Extensive re-organization in a large department like this employing thousands of hands is to a large extent a question of funds. In connection with such recommendations by the honourable members of this Council I would only say one word. As the officer of Government through whom all proposals relating to such re-organisation in all departments have to pass, I know full well how the heads of the several departments do their best to urge persistently and with great force all reasonable cases relating to the improvement of pay and prospects of the subordinate staff working under them. They make the cause of their subordinates their own and partly out of natural sympathy for them from whom they have to exact a high standard of work and partly also in the interest of efficiency in the department over which they preside, they plead their re-organization cases before Government with remarkable tenacity and vigour. I do not mean to imply that there is any harm in honourable members inviting the attention of Government to any branch of the public service in which the terms of appointment are so unfavourable as to impair efficiency. All that I mean to assure them is that the interests of the departmental subordinates are quite safe in the hands of the departmental heads and the representations of these responsible officers always receive earnest consideration of Government in the financial and administrative branches. Mr. Narasimhayya has spoken on the relation that now exists between the Amildars and Police Inspectors and my friend the Inspector-General of Police has replied to this point with great clearness.

Education.

I now come to the subject of education. Most of the points relating to this department have been fully and clearly explained by my friend the Inspector-General of Education. As regards his remarks on the revised estimates under Education for 1915-16 what he has said is quite correct. If there has been unusually heavy expenditure in the department during the last two months of the year of

which the finance and accounts departments were not apprised, it is quite possible that the revised estimate is below the mark, for, the revised estimate is based on nine or ten months' actuals and the estimated expenditure for the remaining two or three months of the year on the normal basis. Whether the lapse under education is really half a lakh only as he has stated or whether it is a higher figure will be known a few months hence when the accounts for 1915-16 are finally closed and the information will be available to the honourable members in the Appropriation report for 1915-16 which will appear in due time.

As regards the annual grant made to the Indian Institute of Science Mr. Karnick Krishnamurthi has raised the question as to whether the State gets adequate return for the grant and has hinted that to some extent it is a waste of money. Sir, I can assure the honourable members that such a remark can only proceed from inadequate information. The location of Indian Institute of Science in Bangalore is a blessing to the Mysore State, the full nature and extent of which has just begun to dawn on those who are interested in the cause of its scientific and industrial advancement. I cannot but look back with admiration on the farsighted statesmanship which secured the location of this Institute within Mysore territories for a comparatively modest consideration. It was one of the most beneficent measures of a great master mind. The importance of an institution where experiment and research work can be carried on under the most favourable conditions and under expert and scientific guidance of a very high order in three or four of the most important and useful branches of practical and applied science can hardly be overestimated. Apart from such facilities the help which we have got from the institution in the matter of industrial development has indeed been considerable. The authorities of the Institute have always been ready, in fact they have been anxious, to render our industrial department all possible help. Many a time I was struck with the value of the work that was being done at the Institute on behalf of our industries, when along with some professors of the Institute and our Director of Industries, I had the pleasure of going round to see what was being done. Several important industries have already been started in our State with the help of this Institute; and I have no doubt that this institution founded through the munificence of one of the greatest sons of India and drawn to the Mysore State by one of our greatest statesmen will yet be the cradle of many a new industry which will bring wealth and prosperity to the millions of this State.

Before leaving the subject of education I venture to offer one more remark and that is with reference to the eloquent, earnest and passionate appeal that has been made by Nawab Gulam Ahmad Kalami for larger grants in the cause of Mahomedan education. The zeal and enthusiasm with which he pleaded the cause of his community deserve the admiration of all of us. Far from blaming him for such special appeal, I think that if each community had such sincere and able advocates the whole population will be moving forward at a rapid rate in the path of progress. There was only one aspect of the honorable member's remarks which struck me as rather inconvenient from the practical stand-point and that is the rather separatist tone of his speech. He wants separate schools for the Mahomedan population. Why should not our ordinary schools with proper arrangements for teaching Persian and Urdū be sufficient for the Mahomedan subjects of His Highness the Maharaja? I quite understand that in the lowest stages there may perhaps be necessity for separate schools for Mahomedans for teaching the Urdu and Persian languages. But at the earliest possible stage Hindus and Mahomedans and all other classes of His Highness' subjects must come to the same Educational Institutions to be trained together under a common influence as loyal and useful citizens of the State. The plan of providing separate sets of Educational Institutions of various grades for separate classes of His Highness' subjects is one which is beset with difficulties and it may lead to unnecessary duplication and waste of public funds. I would therefore suggest that the policy in this matter should be definitely settled between the Mahomedan community and the Education Department, *viz.*, how far and to what extent separate Institutions are necessary and should be provided. When the policy is once settled there will be no difficulty in giving effect to it. I earnestly appeal to all, that in settling this policy water-tight compartments and undue exclusiveness should be avoided as far as possible. Institutions open to all should be made use

of by all classes as the common meeting ground for the whole of the rising generation of the State; and the common platform from which to drink at the universal fountain of knowledge should be reached at as early a stage as possible.

In respect of departments grouped under Agriculture several points have been raised. Mr. Venkatakrishnayya has attacked the Kunigal Stud Farm and laid much stress on the fact that from a purely financial point of view the institution is not a source of gain to Government. I quite admit this fact. I quite admit that the farm has been working at a loss for some years past. But I think that those who founded the Institution did not mean it to be a commercial concern the object of which was to earn profit. The main object was to preserve and improve certain breeds of horses in Southern India which but for the fostering care of such an Institution might have degenerated or become extinct. The farm is one of the interesting places of Mysore which is favoured with a visit by all the distinguished personages whom duty or pleasure brings within the boundaries of the State. Kunigals are fairly well known in racing circles in many parts of India and some of the animals have given a good account of themselves on the turf. The periodical auction lists of the farm and the high price which the animals fetch show that the Institution must to some extent at least be meeting the demand for high class horses in this part of India. The Institution embodies the result of many years' labour on the part of several expert officers who whole-heartedly tried to make it a success as a breeding station. It would be a pity if all this were swept away by the abolition of the farm. Of course it is desirable that means should be adopted to secure more favourable financial results on the working of the farm. I understand that several such measures have been contemplated in the past and some of them may yet be developed and receive consideration at the hands of Government.

Mr. Ramaswamy Chetty has complained that the authorities of the Lal-Bagh in Bangalore engage in branches of trade which fall legitimately within the scope of and can be adequately dealt with by private enterprise. Of course as all the members of this Council are aware there is a depot in Lal-Bagh which obtains from various countries seeds, seedlings, etc., of comparatively rare and useful plants and sells them to the public. To encourage several branches of horticulture, seeds and plants are also given to *bona fide* horticulturists on favourable terms under the recent orders of Government. These are all items of work which ordinary firms are not expected to take up and there is not the least intention to compete with private enterprise. If it can be shewn satisfactorily to the authorities of the Lal-Bagh that any branch of the work which they are doing will be done equally well and equally advantageously to horticulturists all over the State by a private individual or firm and if also guarantee is given that the work will be continued on a suitable basis then the Government department will only be too glad to give up that particular branch of business. No Government department engages in trade in competition with private enterprise if it can possibly help it. The only justification for doing so is to benefit the people of the State and to encourage trade in that particular line by pioneering, and these principles are always observed by the Commercial departments of the State.

One member has pointed out that the cost in the Department of Industries and Commerce is heavy and has enquired what good has resulted by the creation of that department. Another has gone a step further and has demanded that the appointment of Director of Industries and Commerce should be abolished. The same member has also hinted that the Weaving Factory and the Industrial Depot are doing no good and that there is no necessity for continuing them at a loss to the State Funds. Members of this Council must be aware that during the last few years several of the provinces in British India have organised Departments of Industry under expert Directors and when other provinces are starting on the way of industrial development we are asked to retrace our steps and run counter to the general current of the times. I shall not stop to enumerate the various items of useful and highly beneficent work that has been done by our Industries Department during the period it have been in existence under the control and direction of one of the most eminent and distinguished workers in the field of Indian industrialism. The reports of the department published from time to time bear eloquent testimony to the value of work done. As regards the cost involved I may state that even if one of the great schemes that are being dealt with by the department succeeds to

any considerable extent—e.g., improved methods of jaggery manufacture, lift irrigation, fly shuttle weaving, silk manufacture by the factory method, sandalwood oil distillation—I say if even *one* amongst these and numerous other things that are being dealt with by the Industries Department succeed, the beneficial result to the country will far outweigh the total cost of the Industries Department for years together. As it is, there is reasonable hope of several of these measures coming to a successful issue in the near future and I cannot regard any proposal for abolishing the Industries Department or the appointment of Director of Industries which represents its brain, without apprehension of serious injury to the cause of industrial development of the State.

Muzrai, Medical and Sanitation.

Mr. B. Narasinga Rao has said that the Amildars have not been given sufficient powers in Muzrai matters and that the Institutions in the Mysore District with which he is acquainted are going from bad to worse. In the absence of specific examples such a vague and general statement cannot be considered as justified. I earnestly appeal to all members of this council to refrain from making general statements of this kind unless at the same time they substantiate the charge and illustrate what they mean by one or two examples. The object of such complaints is to get the grievances redressed and nothing is gained by creating in the public mind an unfavourable impression as regards Government methods without adequate foundation. In respect of many of the Muzrai Institutions local committees have been appointed and if public-spirited gentlemen serve and help these committees many defects may be rectified. As regards the suggestion that the Muzrai Superintendent should inspect the Institutions under his charge more frequently than he has hitherto done, I may state that the subject of readjusting the control of Muzrai Institutions and that of dividing the functions connected therewith between the local executive officers and the Muzrai Superintendent are engaging the attention of Government at the present time and a satisfactory decision may be expected in the near future. In connection with the suggestions that the Ayurvedic College at Mysore should be improved I may mention that a committee appointed by Government to report on the question of improving the system of medical relief has submitted proposals to Government which include a thorough reorganization of the Ayurvedic College on sound and satisfactory lines.

Mr. Chengiah Chetty has referred to the low initial pay that is given at present to medical graduates who enter the service of the State as Assistant Surgeons and he has strengthened his case for a higher rate of emoluments for these officers by comparing their case with that of corresponding officers in other departments of the State such as the Public Works Department and the Revenue Department. He has also pointed out that in the Medical Department the practice prevails of requiring an agreement from those who join service binding them to serve the Government for a certain number of years while no such agreement is required in any other department of the State. As regards the question of pay, I may state that it is to a great extent a matter of supply and demand and I am not aware that our Medical Department is experiencing any difficulty in the matter of recruitment. It is well known that officers of the Medical Department are as a rule entitled to private practice and this fact is kept in view in fixing the rates of pay. As regards the question of agreement, I know that a similar practice exists in some British Indian provinces. The reason of this practice is that in many instances junior members of the Medical Service establish themselves in private practice in the station to which they are first posted and when subsequently they are transferred to a different station in the interest of the Public Service they are unwilling to carry out the orders and tender their resignation instead. It is to avoid such embarrassments to the public service that the practice of requiring an agreement has come into vogue in the Medical Department in various parts of India. I am not exactly aware whether the circumstances in Mysore are similar to those in the provinces of British India where this practice of requiring agreement prevails. If the circumstances are not alike and the difficulty experienced in British India does not arise here then the matter of doing away with the practice of requiring agreement will certainly receive the attention of the administrative branch. I remember

that the matter was discussed sometime ago and have no exact recollection as to how it was disposed of.

Mr. Karnick Krishnamurthi has referred to the recent orders of Government ordering that small fee should be levied upon the well-to-do classes attending the hospitals and dispensaries in the Cities of Bangalore and Mysore. The chief objection to gratuitous medical relief both as regards advice and medicine in public Institutions even to classes who can afford to pay, is that it naturally checks the growth of a class of private medical practitioners. Visitors to Bangalore and Mysore have frequently wondered at the absence of private medical practitioners in such large cities. But the practice referred to above, *viz.*, gratuitous treatment in the various hospitals and dispensaries in the cities is a sufficient explanation. The other aspects of this question have been thoroughly replied by my esteemed friend Mr. D. M. Narasinga Rao and I need not repeat what has been so well said by him. Mr. Basavayya has urged that travelling Sub-Assistant Surgeons should be employed to render medical help to the rural population in the interior of the State. In connection with the Malnad Improvement operations the Government have sanctioned such a scheme. Opinion on the usefulness of such travelling dispensaries is to a certain extent divided. If the experiment which has already been started or is about to be started proves to be a success, the method will no doubt be resorted to, to a larger extent in future. As regards the complaint of Mr. Karnick Krishnamurthi that the vaccination lymph of our Institute has deteriorated in quality I may mention that a Committee was appointed by Government sometime ago and action has already been taken on the lines suggested by the Committee. If I remember aright the Committee did not come to the conclusion that the quality of the lymph manufactured at our Vaccine Institute had become worse. One reason why Mysore lymph is not now used in some parts of the neighbouring Presidencies where it was used before is perhaps that the people there were getting lymph from some newly established depots within their own Presidency.

Mr. Karnick Krishnamurthi has referred to the appointment of two Sub-Assistant Superintendents in the Government Press. These men were trained in England at a considerable cost to the State in the Art of Printing and in various allied industries and have returned as well qualified experts in the line. The work of the Press having enormously increased of late they are very usefully employed at the present time. As regards the heavy expenditure on stationery referred to by some member the explanation is that larger quantities of stationery are required for the various departments. The prices have also gone up to a very considerable extent. In the case of a certain kind of paper largely used for printing and other purposes the price has gone up by more than one hundred *per cent.* Government passed an order a few months ago on the suggestion of the Comptroller by which some economy has been secured in the matter of paper used in official and demi official correspondence; but in spite of all endeavours the provision for stationery in the budget had to be materially raised.

Mr. B. Narasinga Rao and Mr. Ramaswamy Chetty complained that Bangalore and Mysore Cities have been favoured with large grants but the other towns have been overlooked and they pleaded for more grants for the other towns of the State. Messrs. K. P. Puttanna Chetty and B. K. Garudachar have on the other hand pleaded for even larger grants than have been provided in the budget for the Bangalore City. I may point out that the other towns have not been entirely overlooked in the budget but a grant of one lakh of rupees has been provided for grants in respect of water supply improvements, town-planning, etc., chiefly for towns other than Mysore and Bangalore. I cannot of course tell Mr. B. Narasinga Rao whether any part of this money will go to Srirangapatam. If a sufficiently strong case can be made by those interested in Srirangapatam, there is nothing to prevent a part of the grant being utilized for that ancient and historic town. Mr. Seetharamiah has suggested that details for expenditure in connection with the Malnad Improvement Grant should be included in the budget; there is no objection to this course and I accept his suggestion with pleasure. As regards his request that Kumsi and Narasimharajapura should be converted from sub-taluks into taluks, that is a matter which I believe is receiving the attention of Government. Even if the change advocated by him is not introduced at once and Taluk Treasuries are not established at those places we may as a first instalment establish savings banks under the new

scheme sanctioned by Government in those towns so that facilities will be given to the public of those places in respect of at least one important branch of treasury work.

Several members have pointed out that the budget estimates do not contain any provision for the Bangalore-Hosur line. Provision was made for this link on one or two previous occasions but unexpected difficulties arose and a satisfactory arrangement could not be arrived at with the other parties concerned as regards the terms of working. Under these circumstances, provision of funds would have been premature. I very strongly sympathise with Mr. Garudachar as regards his representation that the Goods shed for the Bangalore City Station should be improved and made satisfactory from all points of view. He must have noticed that a provision of four lakhs exists in the budget for capital expenditure on open lines and if a sufficiently strong case can be made out for the particular work he has referred to I have no doubt that a part of this grant will be devoted to the purpose by the responsible authorities. Mr. Venkatakrishnayya has complained that though nearly 60 lakhs have been spent on Mysore-Arsikere Railway there is no income derived from it. Members of this Council know very well that no section of this line has yet been opened for traffic and no income can accrue before any section is opened. Complaint has also been made about the low income of the State worked railways. These are all small infant lines which have been recently opened and it is well known that for the first few years a new railway line does not get the full revenue which eventually comes to it later on in the course of its existence. Feeder roads have to be constructed to tap the surrounding tracts, the previous course of the traffic has to be diverted, in the case of short lines competition with bullock carts and other means of conveyance have to be encountered and overcome. Besides this, the establishment charges just after opening are also likely to be heavy. For all these reasons, our new narrow gauge lines are not bringing in an adequate return just at present. But what Dewan Bahadur Mr. K. P. Puttanna Chetty has stated with reference to Bangalore-Chikballapur line applies to all these lines and there is every hope that after a few years these lines will bring in an adequate return on the capital invested in them. Mr. Karnick Krishnamurti's proposal for a branch line of railway from the Bangalore City Station through Chamrajpet to the Basavangudi extension overlaps the Bangalore Electric Tramway Scheme. The tramway scheme has not been given up. This alternative proposal of a line of railway through the City does not therefore require consideration at the present stage. Mr. Seetharamiah has referred to the question of Shimoga Railways and has informed the Council that the provision made for the surveys in that district will be regarded as satisfactory by the people. The people of Shimoga under the guidance of their energetic Deputy Commissioner Mr. K. Mathan have subscribed handsomely towards the District Board's share of the capital for the Shimoga District Railways. Debentures have already been issued by the District Board for the amount so collected and it is but natural that the people who have contributed the money should be anxious to know what is being done to give them the railways they desire. Members of this Council are aware that the alignment of the Shimoga District Railway lines is intimately connected with the project of a seaport for the Mysore State on the west coast and in this connection fresh surveys have become necessary. The subject is receiving attention at the hands of our Railway Department and we may all hope that the slight delay that has taken place will be more than compensated by the improved alignment of the lines. Mr. Puttanna Chetty has suggested that the Nanjangud-Erode link should be completed as early as practicable. We all realise the importance of this line and every endeavour is being made to arrive at a satisfactory settlement. The importance of this line is so great and the earning capacity of the Mysore system of railways will be so much enhanced by its construction that I may assure the Council that when all other particulars are settled, financial considerations will not stand in the way of this most desirable work.

The complaint of some members that the higher staff of our Railway Department is excessive in number and cost, is, I am afraid, based on a misapprehension. The number of appointments seems large but many of these have been combined in groups and the number of officers actually entertained is not excessive. For example there are the high appointments of Secretary to Government for Railways, Engineer-in-Chief for construction and Agent for open lines. These are all high

sounding titles and people may be misled by them into believing that there are too many highly paid officers until they know that all these appointments are held by one and the same person who draws a salary which must be regarded as modest even in respect of one of the three appointments. Similarly there is the Under-Secretary for Railways, the Deputy Agent and the Chief Storekeeper. All these appointments again are held by one and the same individual. When the actual facts are taken into consideration and when it is also borne in mind that the staff is intended to cope with the work of the fairly long metre gauge Mysore-Arsikere link which will be opened for traffic during the course of the next few months, I think it will be conceded that the staff is not excessive.

Public Works.

I now come to the important subject of Public Works. Mr. Garudachar has complained that the percentage of establishment charges in our Public Works Department is much higher than that in the neighbouring Presidency of Madras and that this is due to an unnecessarily large Public Works establishment maintained in this State. As you rightly observed, Sir, at the time when Mr. Garudachar was making this statement his figures are not borne out by the published statistics of the Madras Presidency itself. I have in my hand several returns published by the Madras Government. The papers that I have contain the figures, for three years, viz., 1912-13, 1913-14, and 1914-15: the percentages of these years are 29.4, 27.6, and 24.9 respectively, the corresponding figures for the Mysore State are 19.6, 18.7, and 21.6. These figures will make it clear that the apprehension felt by Mr. Garudachar has no foundation in facts. Mr. B. Narasinga Rao has pleaded that larger grants should be given for irrigation works. Members of this Council are already aware that the grant for restoring minor tanks was doubled recently and the establishment for coping with the work was also considerably strengthened. It is indeed true that for the last two or three years a very considerable portion of the Public Works grant is being utilized for buildings. I hope that the buildings on hand will be soon brought to completion and then our Public Works Department may find it possible to devote a larger percentage of the handsome grant placed at their disposal every year for improving our irrigation works, the importance of which can hardly be overestimated.

I am afraid that it will not be possible to comply with Mr. B. Narasinga Rao's request that the detailed Public Works Budget should be included in the General Budget Estimates which is placed before this Council. The detailed budget of the Public Works Department is a separate publication running to over 100 printed foolscap pages and I do not think that the interest of either economy or clearness will be served by the measure proposed by the Honorable Member. Moreover the Public Works Department prepare their detailed budget only after the allotment for the department is definitely fixed by Government and it will be impracticable even if it were desirable to include the details referred to by Mr. B. Narasinga Rao in the General Budget Estimates. Mr. Basavayya has complained that the large Public Works grant leaves little money for other beneficent activities and the only conclusion which one can draw from his remarks is that he wishes the Public Works grant to be reduced. The ordinary standard of the State Public Works grant stood at 25 lakhs until three or four years ago when it was raised to 30 lakhs. In a total expenditure of 286 lakhs the State grant for the Public Works Department to the extent of 30 lakhs cannot be called excessive: it amounts to 10.5 per cent. Mr. Basavayya also wants to know the reasons as to why the original estimate for the first stage of the Kannambady Reservoir Works has been so largely exceeded it having been revised from about 81 lakhs to 102 lakhs. The excess is due to the rise in wages of labour during the last few years and also to the expenditure incurred for settling in a satisfactory way and without any hardship the raiyats whose lands have been drowned by the water-spread of the reservoir. I may inform the Council that the greater part of the work in connection with the reservoir is carried out departmentally under the supervision of experienced officers and every endeavour is made to secure economy, as far as possible, consistently with efficiency.

Sir, a few days ago I was reading an interesting book in which an English medical man described his experiences in the Court of a Mahomedan Monarch. I selected this book as a sort of relaxation from the mental dizziness arising from a continual study of figures which falls to the lot of a financial officer during the budget season. But there is a proverb which says that if a rice-pounding implement is taken to heaven it will be pounding rice even there; and so even while reading this book I relapsed into budget reflections. In a certain part of the book the author states how on one occasion he was called to treat the favourite wife of his Royal Master whom he describes as the Sultana. The patient was heavily veiled and she was placed behind a purda. When the medical man learnt that she was suffering from fever and cough, he wanted to examine the heart sounds of the patient by means of the stethoscope. The doctor humorously describes how, not knowing the exact stature and position of his patient he first struck her on the head with the stethoscope, and it was only after some trials that he could locate the instrument finally in its proper place. Now, Sir, we do not nowadays throw a veil on the fair dame of Mysore finance and we do not place her behind a purda; and the critical stethoscope of our consulting physicians has never been so wide of the mark as in the case just described. Moreover at every fresh trial the instrument has come nearer and nearer the proper place. I hope on this occasion all the members have heard with fair accuracy the heart-beats of Mysore finance and that they are satisfied that the organ is discharging its functions in a healthy and vigorous manner. The veins are bringing in the proper supply of blood and the arteries are distributing it in proper proportion to all the organs and limbs of the State. But it is a matter of common knowledge that even if a patient is quite healthy the medical adviser is not often satisfied and in his eagerness for the welfare of his patient would prescribe medicines for further improving the patient's health. And so in this instance our consultants one and all have come forward with long prescriptions and with large medicine bottles. Sir, as the immediate guardian of the patient I promise to carefully record all these prescriptions and to preserve these medicine bottles; and if at any time any remedies are required I would like a faithful compounder administer the medicine that is wanted. If I were to attempt more than this then the fate of Mysore finance will be similar to that of a patient who to improve her health went to the nearest dispensary and wanted to swallow the whole of it. In the meantime it is a source of great satisfaction to me to know that she has been certified as perfectly healthy by so many competent authorities and that she has received their blessings and good wishes on the eve of her customary journey of twelve months into the domain of the immediate future.

Before I resume my seat it is my pleasant duty to acknowledge with thanks the valuable help and guidance which I have received from you, Sir, and from your colleagues in the Council. You have personally examined the provision made under all the heads and satisfied yourself that funds were provided for the requirements of each department to the best of our means and ability. The First Member of Council Mr. A. R. Banerji has brought his fresh and vigorous mind to bear on our budget procedure and budget methods and has given some valuable suggestions. And the long Secretariat experience of our distinguished Second Member of Council, Mr. K. S. Chandrasckhara Aiyar and his fine and imperturbable judgment have stood in good stead in reconciling the demands of the departments under his care with the exigencies of public finance. A word of acknowledgment is also due to my own staff both in the Financial Secretariat and in the Comptroller's Office and I particularly wish to acknowledge in public the loyal help and co-operation which I have received from Mr. S. Shamanna, Assistant Secretary, Finance Department, and Mr. M. A. Rangachar, Assistant Comptroller in charge of the Budget Department. These gentlemen by taking responsibility with reference to many matters of detail enabled me to concentrate my attention on the more important financial issues in connection with the budget. I must also acknowledge the valuable help that I have received from the Government Press in the matter of the printing work in connection with the budget. The press under its able Superintendent and with its hard working staff rose to the occasion though the

time allotted for its work was shortened owing to unavoidable circumstances. They kept to the appointed dates by working extra hours and with great vigour. We frequently hear of the printers' devil but we are slow to remember the occasions when like a winged Mercury the messenger of the press arrives with voluminous proofs even before the appointed hours. My thanks are also due to the Official Members of this Council who by dealing with the several points appertaining to their departments have to a very great extent lightened my task of offering these replies and explanations. Last though not the least I should not fail to acknowledge with grateful thanks the interest which the non-official members of the Council have taken in the budget. Budget work is apt to get dry and dreamy at times and it is a great comfort to be able to feel at such moments that there are others who take a keen interest in the work, follow it in its details and share in the task of giving it a final shape. Their valuable suggestions have all been noted by me and I have no doubt that they will be extremely useful.

Mr. K. S. Chandrasekhara Aiyar.—**SIR,**—Most of the points raised by non-official members during the very interesting discussions we have had on the budget have already been dealt with by previous speakers and with particular fulness and force by our versatile colleague, the Financial Secretary. There are only left a few points of an administrative character pertaining to departments with which I am directly associated on which it will be needful for me to say something; and to these I shall with your permission confine my remarks.

The first of these points has reference to the long standing question of the separation of judicial and executive functions, which was discussed by a number of members and upon which a few of them have also made suggestions of their own.

I suppose few thoughtful persons will deny the desirability of a separation of functions, as a matter at least of abstract principle; but how far such separation is feasible under a given set of circumstances is a subject on which, as I happened to be reminded quite recently, opinion is by no means unanimous among those claiming to be acquainted with local conditions. I do not wish to deal with controversial points. But I am sure it will be admitted that a ready made scheme of perfect separation cannot be evolved at once, and before any scheme that has a chance of success in its working can be introduced a large number of details will have to be considered and allowed for.

Thus, there is the differentiation to be made between work that is purely judicial, and work that, though done by magistrates, is really executive in its nature, and an estimate to be formed of the total quantity of work of each kind to be separately provided for.

There is, next, the determination of the agency to be appointed for looking after purely judicial work; the modes of recruitment of such agency; the readjustment of the territorial limits that will be probably necessitated by any scheme of separation; and finally, the calculation of the probable additional cost that may be entailed.

All these will take some time; but the Council may rest assured that the matter is not lost sight of, but that, on the contrary, it is being actively considered; also that some tangible steps towards the attainment of the object in view will be taken in the near future, and that the mere apprehension of additional cost will not be allowed to arrest the progress of necessary reform.

Some of the members have adverted to the necessity for improving the pay and prospects of the officials of the Highest Court of the State as compared with those of the Subordinate Courts which were revised in recent years. As to this, I can only say that the proposals made by the Chief Court on this subject are before Government and will be dealt with in due course.

The question of revising the emoluments paid to Public Prosecutors is engaging consideration.

The appointment of a full-time Law Reporter was abolished several years ago as an obvious measure of retrenchment, because, there was not enough work for a paid reporter to do; and there is at present no information before Government tending to show that there has been any change latterly in this respect. The work is being done efficiently by the Registrar of the Chief Court, under the supervision of the

Judges, and with the assistance of law graduates. I may mention that the head notes which are the most important part of the reports are invariably revised by the Judges and very often written by them. There has been I understand no avoidable delay in the issue of the monthly parts of the Chief Court Reports; those for February, March and April being already in type, members who belong to the legal profession will be glad to know that a consolidated digest of all the reported decisions of the Chief Court has been prepared by official agency and is in press and will be published in a few months.

One of the members touched upon the necessity for improving the pay of Police Constables and of the subordinate Police Officers in the State. This question cannot be considered apart from the general question of the reorganization of the Police Force as a whole. The proposals that are now before Government relate chiefly to an increase in the strength of the constabulary stated to be required in order to meet the demands for men which are being made from all parts of the State. The Inspector-General of Police is understood to be formulating, but has not yet submitted, proposals for improving the status and quality of investigating officers. This, the improvement of the machinery for investigation is the really more important question, and members may rest assured that proposals in this regard, when received, will receive the best attention of Government.

As regards the prospects of Sub-Registrars, I may explain that the present scale of pay was fixed in 1906, as the result of recommendations made by the Retrenchment Committee. Promotion is no doubt slow; and in order to make up for this to some extent, the Government have declared Sub-Registrars to be eligible for appointment as Amildars and Deputy Amildars. The general question of bettering the prospects of Sub-Registrars has been the subject of discussion at the Representative Assembly; and upon a reference made by Government, the Inspector-General of Registration has submitted proposals for the reorganization of the entire department, and these will be taken up when certain additional information called for by Government is received. I may perhaps observe that the question is not merely one of increasing the emoluments, but also how far, if possible, additional work may be assigned to the officers concerned to justify an increase of emoluments. All this will be duly considered.

As regards the condition of Muzrai Institutions to which a reference was made by one of the members, I may supplement what the Financial Secretary has said by adding that the general question of reorganizing the Muzrai Department and placing it on a proper basis of usefulness has been engaging the attention of Government for some time past, and it is expected that Government will be able to pass final orders shortly.

Finally, on other points which have not been touched upon, the observations of members have been noted, and such action as the circumstances may call for in each case will be taken.

Mr. A. R. Banerji.—SIR,—I should like to associate myself with the observations made by our friend Dewan Bahadur Mr. K. P. Puttannah Chetty regarding the character of the debate which has taken place over the budget now before the Council this year and to offer my congratulations and thanks on behalf of Government to the non-official members for the detailed study which they have made of the budget figures and the valuable criticisms and observations they have offered; which the Government always welcome from them.

The privilege of budget discussion has not been enjoyed long and it must be highly gratifying to His Highness' Government to find that the privilege has been so profitably availed of and the obligations imposed thereby so ably discharged. Of course here and there some statements have been made of a vague and indefinite character which as pointed out by you, Sir, in the course of the debate might lead to misapprehensions as to the attitude of the Government in regard to certain important matters. But perhaps that was to be expected with the limited time to study and the limited opportunities which the non-official members now have, to bestow on this very important subject. Personally I am in full sympathy with the representations made and the desire generally expressed for enlarged privileges relating to budget discussion; for, to make such a discussion really useful and effective there is nothing that helps more than a sense of responsibility based

on adequate information so far as the non-official views are concerned and a sense of appreciation of those views and a desire to give them a due weight so far as the Government are concerned. I do not think that any one can urge that the Members of this Council are, in capacity, any way behind their co-adjutors in British India or in any other Native State. I am sure therefore that the Government of His Highness the Maharaja would bestow their sympathetic consideration on the representation made by the non-official members at this debate on the subject.

Turning, Sir, now to the main points urged by the several members relating to the departments under my charge there is very little left for me to reply after the exhaustive statement that has already been made by the Heads of Departments concerned and the Financial Secretary, who has more than covered the whole ground with his usual eloquence and lucidity. There are, however, some points in regard to which it is perhaps desirable that the policy of Government should be clearly indicated so that any misapprehension or doubt that may exist may be completely removed. Mr. Garudachar has compared the cost of collecting revenue in a few Provinces of British India with reference to the cost that is incurred in Mysore and apparently by the statistics that he has quoted it is his intention to prove that the administration in Mysore is run on expensive lines. It is well known that statistics are not always a safe guide for purpose of arriving at a general conclusion. Taking the Revenue Administration of the Mysore State as a whole into consideration I can assure that member that it is not so far as establishments are concerned at all up to the requisite strength. The member may perhaps have heard what Mr. Narasimiah said in regard to the tone and the efficiency of the District and Taluk Administration. He must also have heard Mr. Narasimiah urge that the pay of the Amildar and his taluk staff should be raised; and he must also have heard from another member that the Taluk and District Administration requires to be re-organised. It is easy to pick up a few figures from the budget here and there and draw certain general inferences by comparison with a few others; but such inferences would be altogether misleading when the real facts comprised in the whole question are fully taken into consideration.

In Mysore the whole Revenue Administration is in the charge of the Revenue Commissioner as the highest controlling authority with eight Deputy Commissioners and 35 Assistant Commissioners and 68 Amildars. There has been a general cry that these Revenue Officers are over-worked and require relief in many directions, that some of their charges are too extensive and require to be sub-divided. There are many other important administrative problems relating to the Revenue administration remaining to be solved and therefore it is somewhat disconcerting to observe that Mr. Garudachar and one or two other Members of this Council desire to point out with reference to the percentage of establishment charges devoted to the collection of revenue as indicating extravagance on the part of the Government so far as Revenue administration is concerned. Further I may also state, that the percentage must be fluctuating from year to year and in certain years owing to bad season or other causes when the collection does not come up to the requisite standard the figure would naturally become higher as compared with the figure in normal years when the seasons are favourable. The Land Revenue Administration Report for the year 1914-15 will show that the collection work in that year was not satisfactory owing to various causes. This may partly account for the slightly higher percentage to which the member refers.

Mr. Venkatakrishniah in his criticisms on the budget has remarked that the establishment charges are growing from year to year that there are a larger number of appointments not absolutely necessary in the superior ranks of the service and that the administration is top heavy. He has particularly attacked the Public Works and the Forest Departments. So far as the Public Works Department is concerned the Dewan has already in the course of the debate explained to the member the true circumstances of the case. As regards the Forest Department if the Member will kindly refer to the gross and the net revenues of the department, he will see that Mysore stands favourably in comparison with the Forest Departments of the British Provinces. In fact in the short time that I have had the experience of the administration of this department I am convinced that it requires strengthening in many of its branches to secure efficiency and proper economic development of the Mysore forests. In the budget figures for 1916-17 relating to the Madras

Forest Department it is found that out of a total revenue of 39½ lakhs estimated in the budget, an expenditure of 28,82,000 has also been provided; the net receipts are estimated only at 10,68,000. The establishment charges of the Mysore Forest Department together with contingencies come to only 29½ in the year 1914-15 and in the budget year the total estimated revenue is 26,63,000; and the expenditure only 9,40,000; out of which the establishments take up 4,36,000.

The Forests of Mysore are one of its most valuable assets and for the proper conservancy as well as the exploitations thereof it is necessary to have adequate supervising staff and also a well paid subordinate executive staff. All these matters are now engaging the consideration of Government according to their urgency and it is possible that some re-organisation will have to be effected in the near future. It is therefore desirable for the Members of this Council to note that there is no possibility of any retrenchment so far as the establishments of the Forest Department are concerned.

Mr. Venkatakrishniah has also referred to the disparity between the figures relating to Government agencies and other agencies for the exploitation of timber. In the Madras figures, the value of the timber removed by purchasers and consumers is nearly five times the timber removed by Government agency. The difference is chiefly due to the fact that sandalwood as the State monopoly is generally worked departmentally and it is also partly due to the fact that sufficient competition does not exist so far as consumers and purchasers are concerned at present. It may interest the members of this Council to know that the system of long term contracts given without open tenders that has been in vogue for some years in the past so far as teak and other valuable jungle wood species are concerned has been given up. It is therefore hoped that when facilities are given to create a healthy competition a larger number of purchasers and consumers will come forward to work the forest timbers of the State for the benefit, both of Government finances as well as of the market.

Mr. Venkatakrishniah has also urged that the expenditure on the agricultural farms shows considerable increase in the Budget Estimates and there has been no explanation offered for such increase. He further urges that these farms should be self-supporting. So far as the increase is concerned the lumpsum grant for the Hebbal Farm comprises the following items, *viz.*, purchase of new cattle and carts, shafts for working the machines, farm expenses in connection with experimental cultivation and sheds for carts and manure pits. The farm at Chitaldrug has been sanctioned in a recent Government Order, dated 31st May 1916, and the initial expenditure consequent on the acquisition of a large extent of land comprising about 222 acres as well as the buildings and other equipment account for the large non-recurring expenditure of Rs. 24,000. A sum of Rs. 21,000 and odd has been sanctioned also for the Marthur Farm in the Malnad to conduct experiment in the diseases affecting the areca palm. Taking the operations of the Agricultural Department as a whole and the representations that have been made from time to time that there should be agricultural farms in every district headquarters, the note of warning sounded by Mr. Venkatakrishniah would seem to indicate that the Government are proceeding too rapidly in the matter. As a matter of fact, the Government are proceeding very cautiously and steadily and in course of time it is expected that the Agricultural Budget will show a considerably larger sum than it has in the budget now before the Council.

The theory that these experimental and demonstration farms should be self-supporting is a plausible one but experience as well as the correct policy in regard to such farms indicate that it is not possible to make these farms self-supporting. They are not run on commercial lines. They have their educative effect on the raiyat population and the various measures taken and various experiments made in the farm from time to time cannot result in a financial return commensurate with the total expenditure involved. The Report of the Agricultural Department will show a variety of experimental work carried on and the demonstration and popularising work which has been taken up side by side and it is impossible to expect that the work of the Agricultural Department so far as these farms are concerned can ever be self-supporting. It is therefore well that the Members of this Council who view with any concern the expenditure under these heads, look at the question in its

proper light. In the budget year a sum of 1,05,600 as against 1,32,600 for 1915-16 has been made for demonstration and experiments and the Government hope that the whole of it will be profitably utilised, as there were many lapses last year owing to the postponement of some of the farm operations in the districts.

Mr. Venkatakrishniah has pleaded for more district and taluk industrial schools. Perhaps he is aware of the present condition of the different rural industrial schools in the State and realises to some extent the difficulty that the Government experience in securing teachers to take up industrial education. In view of these facts the Government are anxious that the two Technical Schools in Bangalore and Mysore should be fully developed and expanded so that a supply of sufficiently large number of teachers may be forthcoming in the near future to take charge of a net work of industrial schools throughout the State. With that end in view a lumpsum grant of 50 thousand rupees has been made to improve the Mechanical and Technical Schools in Bangalore and Mysore. The member will see from the details of the budget that there is a sum of 22,460 provided for district industrial schools and 14,676 for other industrial schools. It is the policy of Government to develop industrial education as far as circumstances permit and a good deal of the progress expected will depend on the possibility of securing competent teachers.

Mr. Venkatakrishniah has questioned the propriety of allotting Rs. 6,000 for the re-organisation of the Revenue Commissioner's Office. The Revenue Commissioner being the highest Controlling Revenue Authority in the State has an establishment consisting of one Manager and 30 clerks and he practically represents what in British Provinces is the Board of Revenue. It cannot be said that his establishment is too large or that it is sufficiently well paid. In fact past experience shows that the establishment provided for is not adequate and the prospects are not sufficiently attractive to secure men of sufficient education and efficiency to take charge of the very responsible work in the Revenue Commissioner's office. These increases should not be regarded as indicating a desire on the part of Government to swell up unnecessary establishments. It is necessary to ensure by the strengthening of establishments here and there that the work does not suffer.

Mr. B. Narasinga Rao has dwelt upon the growth of revenue in proportion to the growth of expenditure in the State and has addressed a word of caution to Government in that connection. The growth of establishments in certain departments of the State no doubt has been considerable of late but side by side there have been developments in all directions and such developments could not possibly have taken place without the aid of additional staff. The criticisms offered are too general in character to admit of any detailed answer but the member may rest assured that Government have in no case recklessly augmented establishment charges but have only sanctioned what is absolutely necessary for the efficient discharge of the work that is expected to be done.

The retrenchments and such other watch-words are frequently used in connection with the budget discussion but no constructive proposals are forthcoming to show in what respects the Government could affect retrenchments without seriously hampering the administration. Further while in one breath the members strongly urge for retrenchment in another they apply in all seriousness for larger grants under salary of low paid subordinates, education, sanitary improvements and reorganizations, etc., all of which to carry out effectively require additional establishment and extra supervising agency and here comes the fallacy of the argument of topheavy establishments. The miserable sanitary condition of Seringapatam brought to notice by this member has already engaged the attention of Government and is receiving their earnest attention. A progressive administration must necessarily cope with the growth of establishments in all directions and it is impossible to expect that the increase in establishment can always be counterbalanced by a proportionate increase in the total revenues of the State.

Mr. Chengiah Chetty has suggested that as the Amildars are over-worked, Peishkars should be appointed in each taluk as their Assistants. The Government will note this suggestion but consider that in view of the general question of the separation of executive and judicial functions which has been pressed by almost every non-official member before this Council, the proposal loses its importance as a separate proposition. The same remarks applies to Mr. Narasimiah's sugges-

tion that the pay of the Amildar should be raised and the tone of district administration improved some of these are matters which are now engaging the serious attention of Government.

The criticism made by Mr. Narasimiah relating to the bifurcation of the districts of Mysore and Shimoga so far as Forest administration is concerned is that the additional establishment was unnecessary and could have been provided for by reduction of establishments in the Maidan districts. The State forests in Shimoga comprise 568 square miles and Mysore 632 square miles; and as the bulk of the Forest revenue comes from these two districts it was considered necessary for the better working of the forests in these two districts and for a proper safeguard of forest revenue to provide for lesser charges so as to enable the officers to devote more attention and better supervision to their work. The remarks already made by me with reference to the criticisms of Mr. Venkatakrishniah so far as forest administration in general is concerned will, I hope, satisfy the member that the change is absolutely necessary. It is however sanctioned temporarily for one year for the present. The forest revenue of Bangalore, Kolar, Tumkur and Chitaldrug is over 5 lakhs and a comparison with the Madras charges will convince the member that no reduction of establishments in these districts can be effected. In this connection the Government note that in this debate no reference has been made to forest grievances by any of the members and this may justify the presumption that the department is working in smooth and harmonious relationship with the people.

Mr. Narasimiah referred to tank restoration and suggested that Government might be pleased to issue orders to bring about an improvement in the progress of works under this head. The whole question has been thoroughly investigated and orders are about to issue in the matter. The member has also complained of over-centralisation in the Educational Department and suggests an Education Commission to enquire into the question. There is already an Education Committee under the Economic Conference and if any proposals are framed on the subject by that Committee they will receive the serious consideration of Government. It may however be satisfactory to the member to know that the whole question of the present organisation and work of the Education Department, is now, under examination by Government.

Mr. Krishnamurti Rao has made many complaints regarding the work of the Education Department and I need not reply to him in detail after the vigorous defence that has already been made by the Inspector-General of Education.

It may perhaps interest the members to know that the money spent on primary education has increased during the past five years from Rs. 3,51,495 to Rs. 4,80,845 and Government are prepared to spend even more. The additional grants made with a view to the expansion of primary education entailed considerable increase of work and a larger organisation is required. It may be considered that the arrangements are not absolutely perfect and there are defects here and there but the critics might make allowance for the rapid strides primary education has made in the State and not be too severe in their criticisms so far as the existing defects are concerned. Government can assure them that the whole question of reorganisation and equipment is now being carefully examined and necessary orders will be passed to see that rectification, wherever necessary, is made without delay.

As regards the Book Depot I can assure the member that the working of the institution which has not been satisfactory in the past is now being thoroughly examined and necessary improvements will be effected in due course.

The member questions the propriety of a contribution of 7 lakhs of rupees *per annum* to the Indian Institute of Science. I would only urge for his consideration the fact that the possibilities of work under scientific investigation and research so near at hand under the able supervision and control of the best experts cannot but ultimately help the Mysore Government in all their schemes of industrial and economic development. I consider that it was one of the master strokes of policy on the part of the Government of His Highness the Maharaja to have secured the establishment of this Institute in Bangalore. As a recent instance I may quote that the experiments relating to sandalwood oil were all conducted at this institute and the Mysore Government are deriving the benefit from these experiments. Mr. Krishnamurti deplored what he considered to be the existing defects in the

District and Taluk administration and desired that some attention should be paid to the lower ranks of the revenue service. Perhaps he is not aware that in September 1913, Government sanctioned the revision of the Taluk Establishments at an increased cost of Rs. 43,756 *per annum*; and in December 1914, Government revised the District Office establishments also at an additional cost of Rs. 6,900 *per annum*. In view of the possible readjustment of work consequent upon any scheme that may be framed to relieve the Amildars, the whole question will probably be re-examined but no definite promise can be given on the subject at present.

Mr. Krishnamurti Rao referred to the lump allotments in the budget for the Survey Department. In that budget a grant of Rs. 1,10,000 has been provided with the object of pushing on re-survey operations. It may interest the member to know that 23 taluks are now ripe for settlement and a large temporary establishment is necessary to make even fairly satisfactory progress. Lump sum grants only can be made for temporary establishments of measurers and classifiers, as the supply of such men is limited and there is no certainty regarding the same.

He also referred to the inamdars' toddy revenue question. I would reply that this question is now ripe for settlement and Government hope to pass orders at an early date.

The request about minor tanks in inam villages will be noted for consideration. It may interest the member to know that the inam villages have recently been given the privileges of the Village improvement scheme.

The question about the sub-taluks of Kumsi and Narasimharajapura has already been referred to the Revenue Commissioner for his opinion and Government will consider the question when his reply is received.

Mr. Seetharamaiya referred to the desirability of encouraging sandalwood plantations. I have only to refer him to the G.O., dated the 27th May 1915 and Rule 41 of the Land Revenue Rules in the matter, which give certain concessions regarding standing trees; but the suggestion is a good one and will be noted for further consideration.

Mr. Nawab Gulam Ahmad Kalami has pleaded eloquently for Mussalman Education and I may assure him that Government have every sympathy with the object he has in view. His request for the provision of Rs. 5,000 appears to be perfectly reasonable. If after making necessary investigations in the matter it is found that it can be granted Government will only be too glad to do so. I may, however, give him the figures in regard to Mussalman Education in Mysore, to show that the Government are doing all they can to promote Mussalman Education:—

				Rs.
Primary Hindustani Boys' schools	...	...	...	49,545
Do Girls' schools	...	...	...	28,587
				78,132
Anglo-Hindustani Secondary schools	...	...	...	14,695
Scholarships	...	...	...	4,000

Out of a total of 5 lakhs spent for Primary education in the State, Rs. 78,132 for special schools for Mahomedans is not inadequate so far as figures go.

One of the members referred to the lump sum grant of Rs. 3,000 for Geological maps. I may state for his information that this grant has been repeated from the year 1913-14 and is intended to continue till 1918-19. In regard to the enquiry made about the progress, I wish to state that a mineral map of Mysore has been already printed and the Geological map is ready and is now being printed. It is on a scale of 1" to 8 miles showing the general results of the Geological survey work done up-to-date.

Mr. H. Narasinga Rao has offered some valuable suggestions to give effect to the scheme of the separation of the executive and judicial functions. My learned colleague has already dealt with this subject and all I need add is that his suggestions will be duly considered when the scheme is formulated.

He has also referred to a spirit of discontent that has been caused owing to a vigorous policy of Government relating to the backward classes. As regards these

classes Government earnestly desire that there should be no antagonism so far as the policy to uplift them is concerned with reference to the attitude which may be taken up by the so called forward classes. The Government would deprecate any such antagonism. Mr. Basaviah and Mr. Narasinga Rao apparently belong to two opposite schools of thought and Government desire to reconcile them. They wish to assure Mr. Basaviah that the request for additional facilities for the education of the backward classes will be very carefully considered and in all probability some additional grant will be given in the current year. But in doing so, they are also anxious that there should be no apprehension on the part of the advanced communities that Government intend to show any undue partiality to the backward classes. The main principle which underlies Government policy in the matter is that they desire all communities to prosper.

I wish to make a remark regarding the allegation that has been made by one of the members as to the incidence of taxation being high in Mysore. I am afraid that the remark is made on insufficient data. I am at present, not in a position to give the exact figures but I can assure the member that so far as revenue assessments in regard to which I have considerable experience in British India are concerned, they are very moderate in Mysore and if the member will kindly compare the figures he will find the assessments much lower in the Mysore State when compared to those in vogue in other provinces. Apparently there has been some misconception or miscalculation which may be removed if the matter is carefully re-examined.

Government are pleased to note that the non-official members appreciate the generosity with which the Government have treated all large schemes of public improvement, the grants in respect of which are for the first time shown separately in this budget. A sum of 2½ lakhs has been allotted under the several heads of Village Improvement, Malnad Improvement and wells outside Bangalore and Mysore. It may interest the members to know that the Government have promised a moiety of the cost of water-supply projects in Kolar and Shikarpur; and for Chitaldrug they have sanctioned ½ of the cost. In the case of Davangere, a sum of Rs. 30,000 has been promised to be borne out of the State Funds. These facts will show that although large grants appear in the State budget for the cities of Mysore and Bangalore, the Government are not indifferent to the needs of other towns in the State.

As regards Excise administration almost every member of this Council has had some observation to make. These observations are however more or less of the usual diffuse and general character and do not help Government in coming to any conclusion as to the points in which they are said to have been lacking in responsibility or failing in their duty. It has been fashionable for some years to accuse any Government which controls the manufacture and vend of intoxicants, with an anxiety to increase revenue at the expense of sobriety and it is implied that by doing so they are encouraging drunkenness amongst the population. The Excise Commissioner has pointed out that although the Department is doing its best to reduce the number of shops there is always a complaint at the time of the closure of a shop and applications are always made for the opening of new shops. The remedy lies to a great extent with the people themselves. Those that are accustomed to drink will have their drink under illicit conditions unless the Government control it through the Excise Department. Closing of a few shops, regulating the location of the shops and such other remedies are all very well so far as they go, but they do not strike at the root of the evil. A large number of arrack shops have been closed during the past ten years, the duty has been enhanced from time to time and the usual measures that are now followed in British India are being gradually introduced. But a strange inconsistency appears in the criticisms made by some of the non-official members of this Council when they urge that the poor drinking classes should be protected against the illicit practices of the contractors and when they also urge that Government should reduce the facilities for drink. The Government cannot pose as temperance reformers and it is for the educated classes to get into touch with the lower classes which generally resort to all kinds of cheap drink in this country and through the medium of education gradually bring about a better condition of living amongst them. In England and other countries the temperance movement is directed towards educating the

labouring classes providing all kinds of amusements and attractions, *viz.*, museums, cinemas, picture-galleries, etc., to prevent the drinking classes from resorting to the drink shops during their leisure hours. But here depriving them of their ordinary facilities would only mean driving them to all kinds of illicit practices under the existing depraved moral condition amongst which they live. My experience in British India has been that whenever these Excise reforms are introduced suddenly and largely in a district where people are largely addicted by habit to drink, excise offences increase to a large extent and illicit distillation of very strong liquor is generally the result. However, Government are always conscious of and alive to the importance of Excise administration being conducted on the lines of least injury to the population so far as drink is concerned and the necessity of regulating the manufacture and supply of drink in such a manner that the evil is reduced to the minimum. In the current year enhanced rates have been allowed to the contractors for arrack and special liquors, the strength has been reduced from 25 U. P. to 30 U. P. for arrack and the duty has been raised to Rs. 7-8-0 per proof gallon. The duty on beer has also been raised from 2 annas 1½ pies to 4 annas per gallon and fees for foreign liquor licenses have been raised all round by 25 per cent and as the Excise Commissioner has pointed out the co-operation of the non-official members and the public bodies will always be welcomed so far as the question of reduction and the location of shops are concerned.

Sir Sri Kantirava Narasimharaja Wadiyar Bahadur.—Mr. President, I wish to express my gratification at the way in which important matters have been discussed in this Council by the non-official members. The several questions raised in the departments under my charge have been so ably answered by Mr. Narasinga Rao and the Financial Secretary that I find I have very little left to speak about. I shall therefore restrict myself to making a few observations of a general character on a few important points.

Coming to the question of the levy of medical fees, I find that more than one member has strongly expressed his disapprobation of the measure. Government no doubt realise that there is some inconvenience caused in the enforcement of this measure. But if the question of further extending medical relief and of bringing into existence a larger number of private medical practitioners in the country is to be tackled, they feel that some such action as taken is necessary.

Another point raised by Mr. Basavaiya is about the extension of medical relief on a larger scale to the rural tracts. I think he suggested that itinerant medical subordinates should be attached to the Local Fund Dispensaries so that they might pay regular visits to unhealthy localities. I think such proposals have already been made by the Senior Surgeon and Government are giving their best consideration to the question as to how to bring in an effective manner medical relief within easy reach of rural population.

The next point raised is the development of the work carried on in the Malnad area. As pointed out by Mr. Narasinga Rao, a great deal of work is being done in a quiet manner and Government mean to review the work done by the Malnad Improvement Committee so far, at the end of the year before taking further steps in the direction of the amelioration of this tract of our country.

Mr. Basavaiya has also said something about the Jail industries. As pointed out by the Financial Secretary, the industries in the Jail cannot be expected to be worked on a commercial basis but Government admit that there is a great deal of scope for further development of the industries in the Jail. Had it not been for the conditions occasioned by the war, Government had thought of attempting khaki weaving and dyeing on a large scale in the Central Jail.

With regard to the Kunigal Stud Farm, I have a word to say. Government are aware that the Farm has been working at a loss all these years. Perhaps it is a matter of common knowledge to many of you here that with the advent of the Arab and the Australian Horse into this country, the indigenous breed suffered greatly if not practically died out in many parts of the country. Had it not been for the foresight of the authorities then in charge of the department in establishing the Stud Farm for the purpose of experimental breeding in order to produce a horse that would be able to hold its own in a good many respects against the foreign breeds, we should not have been in a position today of having played a large and

leading part in the revival of horse-breeding in India, an industry the importance of which I need hardly emphasize considering the times, we are living in, when every means of quick transit is of such importance. Of course results from experiments in any live-stock rearing means time but with the general encouragement that is being given all over India within recent years, our stock, you will be glad to know, have already begun to fetch handsome prices in the open markets and Government hope the Farm will be a commercial success in course of time. Further the Farm will come in useful as a nucleus to a scheme Government have in view, of encouraging horse-breeding in the State by the people themselves.

In conclusion, I may not be considered to be merely platitudinizing when I express my impression which is no doubt shared by many a member here as to the high order of discussion that has prevailed in the deliberations of this Council during the last two days, disclosing as it has done a diligent study on the part of the non-official members of the financial position of the State and a warm appreciation in some cases of its general financial policy, in spite of the fear expressed from the Chair at the beginning of the discussions yesterday that there might be a repetition of the doleful strain in the reviewing of the budget this year by the non-official members as was done last year. Such frank and intelligent discussions can lead but to one thing, that is, there will be a better appreciation on the part of the people, of the position and difficulties of Government and on the part of Government, a better understanding of the want and aspirations of the people, leading to a sense of mutual confidence and respect so necessary for the prosperity of the State.

The non-official members, I think, on the whole, have every reason to congratulate themselves upon the able and dignified manner in which they have been able to acquit themselves during the proceedings of this Council.

The Dewan.—GENTLEMEN, my first duty on this occasion is to assure you that it will give me very great pleasure to convey to His Highness the Maharaja the loyal sentiments of gratitude, to which members gave expression in the course of this debate, for the several beneficent measures recently sanctioned by His Highness.

In his brief graceful speech, His Highness the Yuvaraja has just remarked on the advantages of frank discussion in regard to the budget. I have no doubt we all appreciate those advantages. In his comprehensive reply this afternoon our Financial Secretary likened the Mysore Finances to an ailing *purdah nashin* Sultana and he pointed out the difficulties under which the doctors formerly laboured whenever they wanted to understand the condition of the patient. Till a couple of years ago, the doctors could only diagnose the disease by examining the tongue put through a slit in the *purdah* or a hand thrust through a door chink. Now, however, the doctors have free access to the patient to the fullest extent permitted by civilised medical etiquette.

My colleagues and myself have listened to the speeches—some of them very eloquent ones—as well as to the criticisms and observations of the members on the budget with the keenest interest. His Highness the Maharaja's Government have reason to be gratified at the spirit of enquiry which these budget debates have aroused and the high sense of responsibility with which, as a rule, members approach public questions in this Assembly.

I hope the members concerned did not mind my interrupting them yesterday in the midst of their addresses. In doing so, my only object was to correct wrong impressions which might have escaped notice and which, had I not interposed, might have been conveyed to the public. On a perusal of some of these statements I fear any casual reader would conclude that the Mysore Government deliberately laid themselves out for multiplying blunders and irregularities.

I know how much time and labour members have bestowed on their work and at what sacrifice they are discharging this public duty. I gratefully acknowledge, on behalf of Government, the many valuable suggestions with which they have favoured us and I recognise that all honour is due to them for their unselfish and patriotic work.

The discussions opened yesterday with some severe strictures on certain supposed defects in the administration. I interfered and represented that the facts

adduced did not warrant the inferences drawn from them. Mr. Venkatakrishnaia who has an honourable record of public service extending over thirty years has all through his life been 'agin the Government.' He is, if anything, partial to the present administration but he cannot shake off his old habit. Has any one a grievance against Government? He supports the grievance and champions it impartially. He does not pause to enquire whether it is right or wrong. Is any irregularity hinted against a Government officer? His first impulse is to believe it to be true. Is there any increase of expenditure in a Government department? Then it must mean extravagance. When however the true state of things is brought to his notice he is candid and generous enough to acknowledge, as he did yesterday, that the truth may be very different.

Some few other members also have thought fit to criticise the budget in the same strain and in many cases the facts adduced did not support the allegations made. What I demand is that when public men set out in this way to attack Government in cold blood, they must at least be sure of their facts.

Messrs. K. P. Puttanna Chetty and B. V. Ramaswami Chetty had a few appreciative remarks to make of the work and the aims of Government. Mr. Krishnamurti Rao who is usually our severest critic seems to have relented and even the Economic Conference has passed through his hands unscathed on this occasion. Mr. Gulam Ahmed Kalam and Mr. Basavaiya have both spoken with eloquence and warmth. Several other gentlemen, including Mr. B. Narasinga Rao and Mr. H. Narasinga Rao, have made impressive speeches. The official members of the Council have effectively replied to most of the criticisms and Mr. Chakravarti has had quite a field day. After the replies which have been so ably given and the responsible statements of my colleagues, no apology is needed from me for confining my observations only to some of the larger issues connected with the budget.

The first question we have to ask ourselves is "Is the budget satisfactory? Are our finances sound?" Some members have drawn attention to the fact that the expenditure is growing. That is a fact. Expenditure must grow in any administration which claims to be progressive. In last year's budget debate, I referred to this aspect of the matter. Perhaps I had better quote the exact words used:—

"Now, gentlemen, I do not see why you should treat an increase of revenue and expenditure as if it were a calamity. If you look facts squarely in the face, you will find that in every civilised country, it is generally a sign of activity and prosperity. Increase of expenditure usually means increase of activities, increase of production and increase of earning power. If you study the figures of foreign countries, you will see that, in the United Kingdom, the public expenditure has gone up in the past 20 years by 140 per cent; in that luckless country, Belgium, it has gone up by 120 per cent; in the Colony of Canada by 300 per cent; in Japan by as much as 660 per cent; whereas, during the same period, the increase in Mysore has been only 60 per cent. To my mind, if there is to be any criticism, you must blame us for going slow."

From these figures you will see that the growth of expenditure in Mysore has not been abnormal. When you proceed to criticise a budget, you must go upon some standard. The standard which some of the members have adopted is to take the figures relating to expenditure in certain departments in previous years, and wherever there is an increase, to straightway conclude that there is extravagance. I told you the other day that we have spent over Rs. 2 crores on capital works within the past four or five years. That means that we have been creating an asset for the State which perhaps ten years hence will give Rs. 15 lakhs of additional income per annum and which has already begun to give over Rs. 6 lakhs.

Is there any danger threatening the finances in the future? Of course, there is the war, but we are recovering from the slight disturbance we experienced and at present there are no clouds on the horizon. We have taken additional precautions to reduce our capital expenditure from Rs. 66 lakhs last year to Rs. 40 lakhs, in the current one and, at the same time, we have amply provided for all the ordinary wants.

Comparing ourselves with conditions outside the State, you will notice that our financial statements are based on those of the Imperial Government and even the

nomenclature is nearly identical. The only difference is that, on account of our geographical and political position, ours has all the characteristics of what may be called Sub-National Finance. Mr. C. Narasimhaiya wanted to know what indirect contribution the people of Mysore made to the customs and salt revenues of British India. The proportionate share which the Mysore population seem to contribute roughly works out to Rs. 24 and Rs. 12 lakhs respectively, or a total of Rs. 36 lakhs. The recent addition of salt tax represents an increase of Rs. 1½ lakhs. The sister State of Hyderabad gets something like Rs. 72 lakhs from customs and Travancore Rs. 12 lakhs. Mysore derives no revenue whatever from this source.

If we go outside India and compare ourselves with distant countries, you will see that, in Ceylon, for instance, the bulk of the receipts is from railways and customs. The land revenue is insignificant. In Australia again, the customs revenue represents about 60 per cent of the total receipts. If we want to increase our revenues in this State, our best course is to develop industrial and commercial enterprises such as, railways, hydro-electric works, large irrigation works, industrial factories, etc.

Another test of the soundness of our finances is the incidence of taxation. The actual taxes as you know amount to about Rs. 176 lakhs or Rs. 3 per head after excluding non-tax revenues derived from railways, hydro-electric works, etc.

There is a further test which we may apply for this purpose. Some thirteen months ago, in the Economic Conference, we calculated that the total income of the Mysore people was Rs. 14 crores from agriculture and Rs. 4 crores from industrial and all other occupations. I have just stated that the revenue from taxes proper in the current year's budget comes to Rs. 176 lakhs. This represents a proportion between the Government demand and the income of the people of less than one-tenth. If we remember that, in other countries, the taxation occasionally goes up as high as 30 per cent of the net income of the people, ours must be considered a very moderate proportion. Test the budget how we may, the Council will see that it is a satisfactory one.

I now come to some of the individual criticisms of the members. As regards the charges for the establishment in the Public Works Department Mr. Chakravarti has explained how favourable the figures really are. I hope Mr. Garudachar is now satisfied that the Department is not over-manned as he feared it was.

As regards recent Railway appointments, some overt hints were dropped that the department was top heavy. It is nothing of the kind. We have one officer at the head who combines in himself three appointments. We have one Superintending Engineer for over 200 miles of construction work, and we have another Superintending Engineer for surveys for which the people have been clamouring in several districts of the State. It is a remarkable testimony to the keenness of the demand that the people up till now have come forward to contribute an additional sum of nearly Rs. 15 lakhs for railway construction. This is a critical time in the history of our railways. Four years ago, we had only 410 miles and within another six months we shall have increased the mileage by about 50 per cent.

The Muzrai improvements question is receiving attention and orders will issue very shortly.

One member suggested the abolition of the Industries Department. I fully concur with my colleague to the left that it would be a retrograde step to abolish this useful department at a time when other Provinces in British India are creating new ones. A promising source of revenue from sandalwood oil has been created mainly through the exertions of Mr. Chaterton and the revenue expected from this industry alone will probably suffice to cover the cost of the entire department five or six times over.

As regards the Institute of Science, I must cordially acknowledge the valuable help which the present management have given to our Director in the laboratory work connected with the promotion of our chemical industries.

Coming to the request for a Budget Committee and the representation of non-officials on the Finance Committee, I find that even official members have expressed themselves in favour of the proposals. I can only say at this stage that the request will receive the best consideration of Government.

With reference to the Malnad Improvement Scheme we have increased the budget provision by Rs. 50,000 in order to expedite progress.

The neglect of mofussil towns complained of is, I must admit, to some extent true but the fault is not all on our side. The real cause of delay is that people are accustomed to look to the central Government for everything, and the establishment in the Public Works Department is not adequate for preparing the necessary plans and estimates. If the Municipalities concerned consulted the local Public Works officers or other technical experts and sent up projects in a final form together with a statement of the financial assistance needed, there will be no delay on the part of Government in coming to a decision.

As regards irrigation works, we have made ample provision for the development of minor tanks on lines accepted by the Representative Assembly.

The irrigation major tanks are starved also because the Public Works Department is short handed. Several important Public Works Department divisions are at present in the charge of very junior officers.

You will be glad to hear that the question of the separation of judicial and executive functions is receiving consideration and my colleague, Mr. K. S. Chandrasekhara Aiyar, is giving the subject his special attention. In the current official year we hope to take some substantial step forward to make a beginning.

As regards Mr. Ahmed Kalami's request for help to Mahomedan education, Government will give their best attention if a brief statement of the requirements of his community mentioned yesterday is placed before Government. In any case, my colleagues and myself have agreed to recommend sanction to the amount he mentioned, *viz.*, Rs. 6,000.

Coming to the Bangalore City Municipal Improvements, Mr. K. P. Puttanna Chetty has made out a strong case. My colleagues and myself are willing to recommend that the annual grant of one lakh of rupees already given to the Municipality be utilised on drainage and that the Municipality may be permitted to begin work on the City Improvement Scheme by spending the 2 lakhs which they have in their possession on the understanding that Government will give them their promised share, as soon as they can conveniently do so. In the meantime, if necessary, they will pay interest if the Municipality chooses to borrow.

Proceeding to the question of the provision for the backward classes, there appear to be two schools of thought represented by Mr. Basavaiya on the one side and Mr. H. Narasinga Rao on the other. It would be nothing short of a calamity to the country if the question gave occasion for any permanent cleavage of interests. No country can be said to progress satisfactorily so long as the great majority of its population, from whatever cause, continue to be classed as backward. If the backwardness is acknowledged, is it not the duty of the more enlightened classes to take their less fortunate brethren by the hand and lead them up to the front? We must take a broader view of our responsibilities. So far as Government is concerned, my colleagues and myself propose to recommend an addition of one lakh of rupees for the education of the backward classes in the current official year. The amount, if sanctioned, will be utilised for giving scholarships in every taluk to members of backward communities for primary and secondary education. Part of this sum will be expended on the education, both general and vocational, of the Panchama community also.

There are some general considerations which I wish to bring to your notice before bringing these remarks to a close. It will be agreed that the public can have no reason to complain so long as the money taken from the people, or earned by the commercial enterprises of Government, is largely spent on the people for their benefit.

The objects on which public money could be most usefully spent are:—

- (1) the improvement of natural resources, and
- (2) the training of the people.

The former object is being carried out to the fullest extent permitted by public opinion and sometimes in spite of it. The development of resources will add substantially to our non-tax revenues. Even more important than this is the training and education of the people. We have increased the expenditure on education

within the past four years by about ten lakhs. Our energetic and much maligned Inspector-General of Education promised, in a scheme submitted a couple of years ago, that he would double the school-going population, that is, bring it up to 400,000 before the end of June 1917. He tells me that he has already reached 300,000 and that he will be able to produce the additional 100,000 in due course.

The best source of revenue in the long run comes of training the people; for after all, we must depend on the intelligence and the executive ability of the people for any permanent progress in the State. To some representatives the additional expenditure of Rs. 10 lakhs on the education of school-going population appears quite legitimate but they stoutly oppose any outlay on the education of grown up people; I have no doubt you all view with satisfaction the expenditure of about Rs. 15 lakhs on measures of development in various directions such as grants to village improvements, rural water-supply, malnad improvements, etc., included in the budget.

I make these observations because I want some of the gentlemen who hold the opinions I have set forth above if possible to change their view point and make up their minds to accept increase of establishment and expenditure wherever necessary in order to stimulate activities, both rural and urban. It is large developments that pay. It is commercial activities that pay. Agricultural and irrigation improvements, banks, railways, large industries, factories, extension of electricity works, etc., it is such enterprises that will bring in large returns. On the other hand, if you effect reduction of expenditure, if you stop the increase of appointments, the increase of salaries and travelling allowances, it only means stagnation or cessation of activities. The large developments may earn you tens of lakhs of rupees, but the savings which accrue from curtailment of establishments will not exceed a few thousands. Even on the lower ground of increase of Government revenues only, it is the larger measures that will bring money to the coffers of the State, besides adding to the prosperity of the people.

If you will forgive my saying so, my complaint is that a few of our respected non-official critics take small views of things and are content with modest ideals when the condition of the people is loudly calling for activity and effort. Without meaning it, they are encouraging retrenchment and reaction. A few years ago they were complaining that there were too many activities. Now the criticism is directed against establishment, travelling allowance and increase of expenditure in any shape or form. They do not know what a large amount of spade work is being done. They do not realise the prospective losses we shall suffer by adopting a policy of indifference and inaction at present. May I hope that our friends will reconsider their attitude? May I venture to invite them to leave their narrow groove of thought and aspiration and co-operate with Government to work on a higher level and a wider sphere?

I have said enough to show that all the refinements expected of a Government in dealing with the resources of the country are receiving attention. We do not pretend that there are no mistakes, and we are not by any means indisposed to accept well-considered suggestions for improvement from any quarter.

I may claim that our finances are in a sound condition. Happily the war is progressing favourably and there is every chance of further improvement. With the success of the Allies, a new era of activity and prosperity will dawn on Great Britain and India, in which we shall also participate.

Gentlemen, we have reason to congratulate ourselves on the high level of efficiency on which our finances are administered. If you examine the budget results of previous years, you will find that the actuals are invariably better than the forecasts. Our Financial Secretary is the very embodiment of caution. I hope I am not revealing a State secret if I add that he practises caution to the verge of timidity. With so able and cautious an officer at the head, we may feel sure that no hazardous experiments will be permitted. I know you will all join me in congratulating Mr. Chakravarti on the successful completion of his labours for this session.

Mr. Venkatakrishnaiya.—SIR,—The Government of His Highness the Maharaja have always been desirous of governing on enlightened and progressive lines. A Representative Assembly was given to us, local self Government was

given to us, a Legislative Council was given to us and economic activities were promoted. What was the object? It is merely that as all human institutions are imperfect, they are desirous of consulting public opinion at each step and suit the Government in consonance with that opinion. For these, we are extremely grateful to His Highness' Government. The other day when you said in connection with the discussion of the budget that Mr. Chakravarti would be our opponent, we simply thought that it was a joke. There was no antagonism between the Government and the people so far as Mysore was concerned. When you established a Legislative Council it was with the object of finding imperfections and seeking to remedy them. You ought to be proud that we are trying to approach your expectations, to the best of our ability. I do not mean to say that you do not appreciate our services. You, your colleagues in Council and the Financial Secretary have borne testimony to the good services rendered by the non-official members of this Council. If we have gone a little out of the way in the course of the debate, you can be confident that when the whole circumstances are placed before us, we may correct ourselves; and respond to your call to the best of our ability. We are on the high road to work in co-operation and mutual trust.

You have all heard us with patience. You have pointed out some defects which we will try to correct and rise to the level of your expectations. We have complete confidence in the enlightened Government of His Highness. If mistakes are pointed out to us we shall be thankful. At the same time it should also be the duty of Government to appreciate our efforts and opinions if they happen to be right.

In every Government there is a sort of antagonism between the Government and the people but that is not so here in Mysore. This is due more to His Highness the Maharaja's interest in the welfare of the people and also to the solicitude of His Highness' Government in the same direction. You want newspapers to be multiplied and all people to take interest in the good Government of the country. We have all been trying to respond to your call and there cannot possibly be any misunderstanding between the Government and the people. Because you want us to give expression to the more noticeable defects in the administration, we come forward. Let us understand each other and this gradual understanding will go a great way to promote the prosperity of the country.

Sir, on behalf of myself and my non-official colleagues in this Council, I beg of you, to convey our heartfelt thanks to His Highness the Maharaja and also to accept our thanks yourself. I once more request you to give up any misunderstanding, if you have formed any, in regard to our intentions for helping in the good Government of this State.

The meeting was then adjourned *sine die*.

By Order,

G. SREENIVASA IYER,

Secretary, Mysore Legislative Council.